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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE GEN-ERAL HOSPITAL CORPORATION [US/US]; 55 Fruit Street, Boston, MA 02114 (US).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant(for_ US only):--MILLER,-Samuel, I. [US/US]: Health Sciences Building, K140, Box 357710, University of Washington, 1959 Pacific Street, N.E., Seattle, WA 98195 (US).

(74) Agent: MEIKLEJOHN, Anita, L.; Fish & Richardson P.C., 225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110-2804 (US).

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(54) Title: SALMONELLA SECRETED PROTEINS AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract

Substantially pure Salmonella secreted proteins (Ssp), the secretion of which is dependent upon the expression of PrgH; methods of diagnosing Salmonella infection; and live attenuated vaccine strains in which Ssp secretion is decreased.

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SALMONELLA SECRETED PROTEINS AND USES THEREOF Statement as to Federally Sponsored Research

This invention was made with Government support under AI34504 and AI30479 awarded by the National Institutes of Health. The Government has certain rights in the invention.

Background of the Invention

The invention relates to virulence factors of 10 Salmonella typhimurium.

epithelial cells by a process termed bacterial-mediated endocytosis. S. typhimurium stimulates these normally nonphagocytic cells to undergo significant cytoskeletal rearrangements that are visualized as localized membrane ruffling adjacent to the bacteria. Bacteria are then internalized via membrane-bound vacuoles formed from the membrane ruffles.

Several S. typhimurium loci have been identified
that are required for the induction of bacterial-mediated
endocytosis (BME) by epithelial cells. Many of these
epithelial-cell signaling loci have a similar chromosomal
location, clustered within a 40 kb "virulence island"
located between 59 and 60 minutes on the S. typhimurium
chromosome (Mills et al., Mol. Microbiol. 15:749-759,
1995). InvJ is a S. tymphimurium gene which is thought
to encode a secreted protein necessary for BME (Collazo
et al., Mol. Microbiol. 15:25-38, 1995).

Summary of the Invention

30 The invention features proteins involved in Salmonella typhimurium virulence and/or bacterial-mediated endocytosis. The genes encoding these proteins have now been cloned and their corresponding gene products characterized. Accordingly, the invention

features a substantially pure DNA encoding a Salmonella secreted protein (Ssp). By the term "Salmonella secreted protein" is meant a Salmonella-derived protein, the secretion of which is dependent on the expression of PrgH. In preferred embodiments the invention features substantially pure DNA encoding a Salmonella typhimurium secreted protein. By Salmonella typhimurium secreted protein is meant as Salmonella typhimurium derived protein, the secretion of which is dependent on the expression of PrgH.

One aspect of the invention features a substantially pure DNA molecule which includes the SspB gene; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the 15 amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5. In another aspect the invention features a substantially pure DNA molecule which includes the SspC gene; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ 20 ID NO: 6. In another aspect the invention features a substantially pure DNA molecule which includes the SspD gene; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7. In another aspect 25 the invention features a substantially pure DNA molecule which included the SspA gene; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8. The invention also features a substantially 30 pure DNA molecule which includes the SspB, SspC, SspD, and SspA genes; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15. The invention also features a substantially pure DNA molecule which includes the SspH gene; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of 35 SEQ ID NO: 13, or degenerate variants thereof encoding

the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14. The invention also features a substantially pure DNA molecule which includes the Salmonella tyrosine phosphatase A (stpA) gene; preferably, the DNA includes the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:12.

The invention also features a cell into which has been introduced substantially pure DNA encoding an Ssp (or a mutant variant thereof). The substantially pure 10 DNA can be introduced as a portion of a plasmid or other autonomously replicating molecule. In addition the substantially pure DNA can be introduced by homologous recombination. Preferably, the bacterial cell is a Salmonella cell; more preferably the bacterial cell is a 15 Salmonella typhimurium cell. Cells into which have been introduced substantially pure DNA encoding an Ssp (or mutant variant thereof) can be used as a source of purified Ssp.

The invention includes a substantially pure SspC 20 polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6 or an active fragment thereof and a substantially pure SspD polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence 25 substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7 or an active fragment thereof. The invention includes a substantially pure SspB polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ 30 ID NO: 5 (incomplete protein sequence) or an active fragment thereof and a substantially pure SspA polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 (incomplete protein sequence) or 35 an active fragment thereof. The invention includes a

substantially pure full-length SspB polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5 (incomplete protein sequence) and the remainder 5 of the SspB sequence. Full-length SspA and SspB genes can be isolated by those skilled in the art using the partial DNA sequences disclosed herein. The invention also includes a substantially pure full-length SspA polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino 10 acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 (incomplete protein sequence) and the remainder of the SspA sequence. The invention also features An active fragment of an Ssp B polypeptide or an SspC polypeptide or an SspD polypeptide is defined 15 as an SspB, SspC, or an SspD polypeptide, respectively, at least 50 amino acids, preferably at least 25 amino acids, more preferably at least 10 amino acids in length having the ability to induce BME in the absence of the full-length version of the corresponding protein. 20 other preferred embodiments the SspB, SspC, SspD or SspA polypeptide is able to translocate into an epithelial cell, preferably a human epithelial cell. Translocation can be assayed using any suitable assay, e.g., the assay of Sogy et al. (Molecular Microbiol. 14:583:94, 1994).

25 The invention also includes a substantially pure SspH polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:14, or a biologically active fragment thereof.

The invention also includes a substantially pure lagB polypeptide, e.g., a polypeptide which includes an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:11, or a biologically active fragment thereof.

Also within the invention is an antibody which binds to a Ssp, e.g., a polyclonal or monoclonal antibody which specifically binds to an epitope of Ssp.

Polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies produced against the polypeptides of the invention can be used as diagnostic or therapeutic agents. The invention encompasses not only an intact monoclonal antibody, but also an immunologically-active antibody fragment, e.g., a Fab or (Fab)₂ fragment; an engineered single chain Fv molecule.

10 In preferred embodiments, the antibody may be linked to a detectable label, e.g. a radioactive label, fluorescent label, paramagnetic label, or colorimetric label.

The invention also includes a method of detecting a Salmonella infection in a mammal which includes the 15 steps of contacting a biological sample derived from the mammal, e.g., a human patient, with a Ssp-specific antibody and detecting the binding of the antibody to a Ssp in the sample. Antibody binding indicates that the mammal is infected with Salmonella. The presence of 20 Salmonella in a biological sample may also be detected using a method which includes the steps of contacting the sample with a Ssp-encoding DNA, or the complement thereof, under high stringency conditions and detecting the hybridization of the DNA to nucleic acid in the 25 sample. Hybridization indicates the presence of Salmonella in the biological sample. By "high stringency" is meant DNA hybridization and wash conditions characterized by high temperature and low salt concentration, e.g., wash conditions of 65°C at a salt 30 concentration of approximately 0.1 × SSC. For example, high stringency conditions may include hybridization at about 42°C in the presence of about 50% formamide; a first wash at about 65°C with about 2 × SSC containing 1% SDS; followed by a second wash at about 65°C with about 35 0.1 × SSC.

The invention also features a method for detecting the presence of antibodies to an Ssp using all or part of an Ssp protein. The method includes contacting a biological sample with the Ssp protein and measuring the binding of the Ssp protein to an antibody present in the sample.

The invention also features a method of targeting an antigen to an epithelial cell in a mammal which includes the steps of linking the antigen to an Ssp,

10 e.g., SspC or SspD, or active fragment thereof, to produce a Ssp chimeric antigen and administering the chimeric antigen to the mammal.

A method of inducing a cytotoxic T cell immune response in a mammal is also within the invention. This method includes the steps of linking the antigen to an Ssp or active fragment thereof to produce a Ssp chimeric antigen and contacting an antigen-presenting cell, e.g., a Class I major histocompatibility complex (MHC) antigen-expressing cell, with the chimeric antigen.

The invention also features a vaccine which includes a bacterial cell, the virulence of which is attenuated by decreased secretion of a Ssp, and a method of vaccinating an mammal, e.g., a human patient, against a Salmonella infection by administering such a vaccine.

25 Preferably, the bacterial cell is a Salmonella typhimurium cell, e.g., a Salmonella enteriditis cell, or a Salmonella typhi cell. A live Salmonella cell in which a gene encoding a heterologous antigen is inserted into a Ssp-encoding gene is also included in the invention.

30 Also within the invention is a substantially pure StpA polypeptide and a method of dephosphorylating a protein which includes the steps of contacting the protein, e.g., a protein at least one tyrosine of which is phosphorylated, with a StpA polypeptide or an active fragment thereof. An active fragment of StpA is defined

as a Salmonella-derived polypeptide at least 10 amino acids in length which is capable of removing a phosphate group from a tyrosine residue.

The invention feature live Salmonella

5 (particularly Salmonella typhimurium) vaccines in which
one or more gene required for BME is mutated so as reduce
their activity. Among the genes which can be mutated are
SspB, SspC, and SspD. Although SspA appears not to be
required for BME, it may be useful to mutate this gene as

- 10 well (preferably in combination with mutation of one or more of the other Ssp genes). Any mutation of these genes which decreases function, including complete or partial deletion and one or more point mutations may be useful. In addition, function of Ssp gene may be
- 15 impaired by altering its control region.

 The invention provides a Salmonella vaccine which does not cause transient bacteremia. In general, the invention features a bacterial cell, preferably a Salmonella cell, e.g., a S. typhi, S. enteritidis
- 20 typhimurium, or S. cholerae-suis cell, the virulence of which is attenuated by a first mutation in an Ssp gene. The preferred mutations are loss of function mutations. However, functions causing partial loss of function may be useful if virulence is adequately reduced. Such a
- 25 bacterial cell can be used as a vaccine to immunize a mammal against salmonellosis.

The Salmonella cell may be of any serotype, e.g., S. typhimurium, S. paratyphi A, S. paratyphi B, S. paratyphi C, S. pylorum, S. dublin, S. heidelberg, S. newport, S. minnesota, S. infantis, S. virchow, or S.

panama.

The first mutation may be a non-revertible null mutation in one or more of the following genes: SspB, SspC, or SspD. Preferably, the mutation is a deletion of at least 100 nucleotides; more preferably, the

mutation is a deletion of at least 500 nucleotides; even more preferably, the mutation is a deletion of at least 750 nucleotides. Mutations in the prgH gene or the prgH operon can be used for the same purpose.

In preferred embodiments loss or function (partial or complete) is due to decreased expression as a result of a change or mutation, e.g., a deletion, (preferably a non-revertible mutation) at the promoter or other regulatory element of SspB, SspC, or SspD (or some combination thereof).

In another aspect, the invention features a vaccine including a bacterial cell which is attenuated by decrease of expression of a Ssp virulence gene.

The invention also features a live Salmonella

15 cell, or a substantially purified preparation thereof,
e.g., a S. typhi, S. enteriditis typhimurium, or
S. cholerae-suis cell, in which there is inserted into a
virulence gene, e.g., an Ssp gene, a gene encoding a
heterologous protein, or a regulatory element thereof.

In another aspect the invention includes a method of vaccinating an animal, e.g., a mammal, e.g., a human, against a disease caused by a bacterium, e.g., Salmonella, including administering a vaccine of the invention.

By "vaccine" is meant a preparation including materials that evoke a desired biological response, e.g., an immune response, in combination with a suitable carrier. The vaccine may include live organism, in which case it is usually administered orally, or killed organisms or components thereof, in which case it is usually administered parenterally. The cells used for the vaccine of the invention are preferably alive and thus capable of colonizing the intestines of the inoculated animal.

By "mutation" is meant any change (in comparison with the appropriate parental strain) in the DNA sequence of an organism. These changes can arise e.g., spontaneously, by chemical, energy e.g., X-ray, or other forms of mutagenesis, by genetic engineering, or as a result of mating or other forms of exchange of genetic information. Mutations include e.g., base changes, deletions, insertions, inversions, translocations or duplications.

A mutation attenuates virulence if, as a result of the mutation, the level of virulence of the mutant cell is decreased in comparison with the level in a cell of the parental strain, as measured by (a) a significant (e.g., at least 50%) decrease in virulence in the mutant strain compared to the parental strain, or (b) a significant (e.g., at least 50%) decrease in the amount of the polypeptide identified as the virulence factor in the mutant strain compared to the parental strain.

A non-revertible mutation, as used herein, is a 20 mutation which cannot revert by a single base pair change, e.g., deletion or insertion mutations and mutations that include more than one lesion, e.g., a mutation composed of two separate point mutations.

Heterologous protein, as used herein, is a protein
that in wild type, is not expressed or is expressed from
a different chromosomal site, e.g., a heterologous
protein is one encoded by a gene that has been inserted
into a second gene.

A substantially purified preparation of a

30 bacterial cell is a preparation of cells wherein
contaminating cells without the desired mutant genotype
constitute less than 10%, preferably less than 1%, and
more preferably less than 0.1% of the total number of
cells in the preparation.

A substantially pure DNA, as used herein, refers to a nucleic acid sequence, segment, or fragment, which has been purified from the sequences which flank it in a naturally occurring state, e.g., a DNA which has been 5 removed from the sequences which are normally adjacent to the fragment, e.g., the sequences adjacent to the fragment in the genome in which it naturally occurs. The term also applies to DNA which has been substantially purified from other components which naturally accompany the DNA, e.g., DNA which has been purified from proteins which naturally accompany it in a cell.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments and from the claims.

By "polypeptide" is meant any chain of amino acids, regardless of length or post-translational modification (e.g., glycosylation or phosphorylation).

By "substantially identical" is meant a polypeptide or nucleic acid exhibiting at least 50%,

20 preferably 85%, more preferably 90%, and most preferably 95% sequence identity to a reference amino acid or nucleic acid sequence. For polypeptides, the length of comparison sequences will generally be at least 10 amino acids, preferably at least 20 amino acids, more

25 preferably at least 25 amino acids, and most preferably 35 amino acids. For nucleic acids, the length of comparison sequences will generally be at least 50 nucleotides, preferably at least 60 nucleotides, more preferably at least 75 nucleotides, and most preferably 30 100 nucleotides.

Sequence identity is typically measured using sequence analysis software (e.g., Sequence analysis software package of the genetics computer group, university of Wisconsin biotechnology center, 1710 university avenue, Madison, WI 53705). Such software

matches similar sequences by assigning degrees of homology to various substitutions, deletions, substitutions, and other modifications. Conservative substitutions typically include substitutions within the following groups: glycine, alanine; valine, isoleucine, leucine; aspartic acid, glutamic acid, asparagine, glutamine; serine, threonine; lysine, arginine; and phenylalanine, tyrosine.

By a "substantially pure polypeptide" is meant a

10 Ssp polypeptide which has been separated from components
which naturally accompany it. Typically, the polypeptide
is substantially pure when it is at least 60% Ssp by
weight. Preferably, the preparation is at least 75%,
more preferably at least 90%, and most preferably at

15 least 99%, by weight, Ssp polypeptide. A substantially
pure Ssp polypeptide may be obtained, for example, by
extraction from a natural source (e.g., Salmonella
bacterium); by expression of a recombinant nucleic acid
encoding a Ssp polypeptide; or by chemically synthesizing
20 the protein. Purity can be measured by any appropriate
method, e.g., using column chromatography, polyacrylamide
gel electrophoresis, or by HPLC analysis.

A protein is substantially free of naturally associated components when it is separated from those contaminants which accompany it in its natural state. Thus, a protein which is chemically synthesized or produced in a cellular system different from the cell from which it naturally originates will be substantially free from its naturally associated components.

30 Accordingly, substantially pure polypeptides include those derived from one type of prokaryotic organism, e.g., S. typhimurium, but synthesized in E. coli or another prokaryotic organism.

By "substantially pure DNA" is meant DNA that is 35 free of the genes which, in the naturally-occurring

genome of the organism from which the DNA of the invention is derived, flank the gene. The term therefore includes, for example, a recombinant DNA which is incorporated into a vector; into an autonomously replicating plasmid or virus; or into the genomic DNA of a prokaryote or eukaryote; or which exists as a separate molecule (e.g., a cDNA or a genomic or cDNA fragment produced by PCR or restriction endonuclease digestion) independent of other sequences. It also includes a recombinant DNA which is part of a hybrid gene encoding additional polypeptide sequence, e.g, a hybrid gene encoding a chimeric antigen.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description of the preferred embodiments thereof, and from the claims.

Detailed Description

Fig. 1 is a diagram of the a genetic map of the 59-60 min region of the S. typhimurium chromosome and partial physical map of the restriction endonuclease 20 sites of the prgH chromosomal region within the hil locus and related plasmids. The horizontal arrows indicate the direction of transcription of the orfl, prgHIJK, and org genes and of the neomycin promoter of the Tn5B50 insertions within the hil locus. The vertical arrows 25 indicate and the location of the predicted start of transcription of the prgHIJK operon (small arrow) and the location of the two Tn5B50 insertions that define the hil locus (large arrows). The open triangle indicates the location of the prgH1::TnphoA insertion. Restriction 30 endonuclease sites are as follows: B, BamHI; E, EcoRI; H, HindIII; S, SacI; Ss, SspI; V, EcoRV; X, XhoI.

Fig. 2 is a photograph of a Northern blot assay in which the prgHIJK and org transcripts are identified.

Blot hybridization of a prgH (A), prgI-J (B) prgK (C),

35 org (D), and pagC (E) DNA probe to RNA purified from

wild-type (Wt) and phoP constitutive (P^c) S. typhimurium strains were grown aerobically to 0.5 optical density units. The bars indicate the RNA markers and are 9488, 6255, 3911, 2800, 1898, and 872 nucleotides (NT) in size from top to bottom.

Fig. 3 is a photograph of a primer extension analysis of RNA isolated from wild-type and Phopc S. typhimurium strains by using an oligonucleotide primer IB08 corresponding to nucleotides 1217 to 1199 of the 10 prgH sequence. Lanes labeled "AGCT" represent dideoxy DNA sequencing reactions. The lane labeled "wt" represents the products of a primer extension reaction initiated with primer IBO8 and wild-type RNA as a template, and the lane labeled "PC" represents the 15 products of a primer extension reaction initiated with the same primer and PhoP^c RNA as a template. Reverse transcription of wild-type RNA with primer IB08 resulted in an approximately 270-nucleotide product corresponding to a predicted transcriptional start at nucleotide 949 of 20 the prgH sequence. Abbreviations: wt, wild type strain 14028s; Pc, PhoPc strain CS022.

Fig. 4A is a diagram showing the similarity and alignment of prgI, mxiH, and yscF predicted gene products.

Fig. 4B is a diagram showing the similarity and alignment of prgJ and mxiI predicted gene products.

Fig. 4C is a diagram showing the similarity and alignment of prgK, mxiJ, and yscJ predicted gene products. For Figs. 4A-4C, residues conserved among each of the predicted gene products are indicated with a plus (+); residues conserved among the prgI and either the mxiH or yscF predicted gene products and between the prgK and either the mxiJ or yscJ predicted gene products are indicated with an asterisk (*). The location of the lipoprotein processing sites (Leu-Xaa-Gly-Cys) of the

prgK, mxiJ, and yscJ predicted gene products are indicated by underlining. Predicted protein sequences were compared using the GCG BLAST network service and ALIGN program (Feng et al., J. Mol. Evol. 35:351-360, 5 1987; Higgins et al., CABIOS 5:151-153, 1989).

Fig. 5 is a photograph of a SDS-PAGE gel.

Salmonella proteins found in the culture supernatant of stationary-phase S. typhimurium 14028s were compared to proteins isolated from lysed whole cells or cellular fractions (membranes or intracellular soluble proteins).

TCA precipitable material from 2 ml of supernatant from cultures of OD₆₀₀ = 2.2 was used. The whole cell, membrane, and soluble lanes contained material from 0.10 ml, 0.35 ml, and 0.15 ml of cells, respectively.

15 Proteins were fractionated in a 12% polyacrylamide gel by SDS-PAGE and stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue R-250. The molecular masses of protein standards are indicated on the side of the gel as kDa.

Fig. 6 is a photograph of a SDS-PAGE gel showing a comparison of culture supernatant proteins from S. typhimurium 14028s and culture supernatants from mutants which are defective in eucaryotic signaling. TCA precipitable material from 2 ml of bacterial culture supernatant was isolated at different times following inoculation: mid-log, OD₆₀₀ = 0.6; late-log / early-stationary, OD₆₀₀ = 1.1; stationary, OD₆₀₀ = 2.2. Proteins were fractionated in a 12% polyacrylamide gel by SDS-PAGE and stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue R-250. The molecular masses of protein standards are indicated on the side of the gel as kDa. wt, wild type (14028s); p^c, PhoP^c (CS022); P⁻, PhoP⁻ (CS015); Ahil (CS451), deleted for the hil locus.

Fig. 7 is a photograph of a SDS-PAGE gel showing an analysis of prgH::TnphoA and complementation of the insertion mutation by pWKSH5. TCA precipitable material

from 2 ml of supernatant from stationary phase cultures was fractionated in a 10% polyacrylamide gel by SDS-PAGE. Protein was stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue R-250. The molecular masses of protein standards are indicated on the side of the gel as kDa. wt, wild-type (14028s); IB040, prgH1::TnphoA; IB043, prgH1::TnphoA with plasmid pWKSH5 containing a 5.1 kb insert of S. typhimurium DNA including prgHIJK. Supernatant protein bands complemented by pWKSH5 are indicated by arrows (87 kDa and 65 kDa) and a bracket (three bands in the 35-40 kDa range).

Fig. 8 is a photograph of a SDS-PAGE gel showing Salmonella secreted proteins (Ssp) concentrated from supernatants of different strains. Each lane contains

15 Ssp collected from 2 ml of culture supernatant. Lanes 1: wild-type S. typhimurium SL1344; 2: EE638 (lacZY11-6); 3: EE633 (lacZY4); 4: VB122 (hilA::kan-112); 5: EE637 (invF::lacZY11-5); 6: IB040 (prgH1::TnphoA) St: molecular weight standard. Sizes of protein bands are given in

20 kDa. * marks a protein band which was variably present in different preparations of Ssp from the same strains.

Fig. 9 is a diagram showing the chromosomal

organization of the sspBCDA genes and phenotypes of mutants sspC::lacZY4 (EE633) and sspA::lacZY11-6 (EE638).

25 The chromosomal location of ssp with respect to spaT and prgH is shown. An asterisk (*) indicates partially sequenced genes. Restriction sites in parentheses have only been mapped in the left region of the 11 kb EcoRI fragment. Abbreviations of restriction sites are: E:

30 EcoRI, B: BamHI, P: PvuII, N: NcoI. Invasion of

epithelial cells by different S. typhimurium strains is given as the percentage of the bacterial inoculum surviving gentamicin treatment. Values represent means and standard errors of the means of three independent

35 experiments, each performed in triplicate. Presence or

5

absence of Salmonella secreted proteins SspA, SspC and SspD in culture supernatants of different strains is indicated by + or -, respectively. The molecular weights in kDa of these Ssp are shown in parentheses.

Fig. 10 is a diagram showing a complementation analysis of EE638. Complementing fragments of chromosomal DNA in a low-copy plasmid are shown according to the chromosomal map. Designations of the plasmids are given in brackets on the left. The positions of the lac 10 promoter (P_{lac}) are indicated. Δ indicates a deletion.

Fig. 11 is a photograph of an immunoblot analysis of various strains for expression and secretion of Ssp87. Total cellular proteins from bacteria collected from 0.2 ml of cultures were loaded in lanes designated "C", 15 supernatant proteins from 0.2 ml bacterial culture supernatants were loaded in lanes designated "S". 1: wild type S. typhimurium; 2: CS022 (Phopc); 3: IB040 (prqH1::TnphoA); 4: CS451 (\(\Delta \text{hil}::Tn5-428 \); 5: EE638

20 Fig. 12 is a diagram showing a comparison of the deduced partial amino acid sequence of SspB with the S. flexneri homologue IpaB. Bars indicate identical residues, dots indicate gaps introduced in order to maximize similarity according to the GAP program of the 25 GCG package.

(sspC::lacZY11-6); 6: EE633 (sspA::lacZY4).

Fig. 13 is a diagram showing a comparison of the deduced amino acid sequences of SspC with the S. flexneri homologues IpaC. Bars indicate identical residues, dots indicate gaps introduced in order to maximize similarity 30 according to the GAP program of the GCG package.

Fig. 14 is a diagram showing a comparison of the deduced amino acid sequences of SspD with the S. flexneri homologues IpaD. Bars indicate identical residues, dots indicate gaps introduced in order to maximize similarity 35 according to the GAP program of the GCG package.

Fig. 15 is a diagram of the amino-terminal sequence derived from the 5'-region of sspA. Amino acids determined by amino-terminal sequencing of SspC and SspA are underlined.

Fig. 16 is a photograph of a SDS-PAGE gel showing total soluble Ssp collected from 2 ml of culture supernatants of wild type S. typhimurium SL1344 and EE638 (sspC::lacZY11-6) transformed with various plasmids.

Lanes 1: SL1344 [pWSK29]; 2: EE638 [pWSK29]; 3: EE638

[pCH004 (sspC)]; 4: EE638 [pCH005 (sspCD)]; 5: EE638

[pCH006 (sspD)]; 6: EE638 [pCH002 (sspCDA)]; 7: SL1344 [pCH002 (sspCDA)]. Lanes 8 and 9 contain soluble Ssp from SL1344 [pWSK29] and EE638 [pWSK29], respectively. The sizes of the protein bands are given in kDa. An asterisk (*) indicates a protein band which was variably present in different preparations of Ssp from the same strains.

Fig. 17 is a photograph of an SDS-PAGE gel showing insoluble Ssp precipitates collected from 2 ml of culture supernatants of wild type S. typhimurium SL1344 and EE638 (sspC::lacZY11-6) transformed with various plasmids.

Lanes 1: SL1344 [pWSK29]; 2: EE638 [pWSK29]; 3: EE638 [pCH004 (sspC)]; 4: EE638 [pCH005 (sspCD)]; 5: EE638 [pCH006 (sspD)]; 6: EE638 [pCH002 (sspCDA)]; 7: SL1344

25 [pCH002 (sspCDA)]. Lanes 8 and 9 contain soluble Ssp from SL1344 [pWSK29] and EE638 [pWSK29], respectively.

The sizes of the protein bands are given in kDa. An asterisk (*) indicates a protein band which was variably present in different preparations of Ssp from the same strains.

Fig. 18 is a diagram showing the genetic organization of the invasion gene clusters from S. typhimurium and S. flexneri. The relative positions of each gene are indication and the directions of gene transcription are indicated by arrows. Arrows are not

drawn to scale. Gene clusters conserved in sequence and gene order are indicated by stippling (inv-spa/mxi-spa), crosshatching (prglJK/mxiHI]), and dark arrows (ssp/ipa). Genes with no homologues within the respective regions are shown as open arrows.

Fig. 19 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequence of SspB (missing part of the 5' end) (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Fig. 20 is a depiction of the nucleic acid 10 sequence of SspC (SEQ ID NO: 2).

Fig. 21 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequence of SspD (SEQ ID NO: 3).

Fig. 22 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequence of SspB (missing part of the 3' end) (SEQ ID NO: 15 4) and the predicted amino acid sequence SspB (partial cterminal) (SEQ ID NO: 5).

Fig. 23 is a depiction of the predicted amino acid sequences of SspC (SEQ ID NO: 6), SspD (SEQ ID NO: 7), and SspA (partial animo terminal) (SEQ ID NO: 8).

Fig. 24 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequences of *iagB* (SEQ ID NO: 9) and *stpA* (SEQ ID NO: 10).

Fig. 25 is a depiction of the predicted amino acid sequences of iagB (SEQ ID NO: 11) and stpA (SEQ ID NO: 25 12).

Fig. 26 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequence of prgH (SEQ ID NO: 13).

Fig. 27 is a depiction of the predicted amino acid sequences of prgB (SEQ ID NO: 14).

Fig. 28 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequence of SspBCDA (truncated at 3' and 5' ends) (SEQ ID NO: 15).

Fig. 29 is a depiction of the nucleic acid sequence of prgH and 5' and 3' flanking sequences (SEQ ID 35 NO: 16).

Ssp Proteins and Genes

The Salmonella secreted proteins (Ssp) of the invention have a variety of uses. For example, they can be used as diagnostic reagents, therapeutic agents, and research products. The genes encoding Ssp also have a variety of uses. For example, they can be used as diagnostic reagents. They can also be used to create vaccines including live attenuated vaccines.

Because Salmonella infection is a significant

10 health problem and because Ssp proteins are soluble

proteins that are found on the surface of Salmonella,
various Ssp, DNA encoding various Ssp, and antibodies
directed against various Ssp are useful in diagnostic
assays. Because Ssp are required for optimal virulence,

15 DNA encoding a mutant Ssp having decreased function can
be used to create strains of Salmonella with reduced
virulence. Such strains are useful as live vaccines.

An Ssp (or a portion thereof which can gain entry into the cytoplasm) can be used to translocate a second 20 molecule, e.g., a polypeptide, into the cytoplasm of a This approach can be useful for the induction or priming of cytotoxic lymphocytes (CTL) directed against the second molecule. An Ssp (or a portion thereof capable of translocating an attached second molecule) can 25 be used to introduce a second molecule into the cell cytoplasm for the purpose of drug delivery. Often the second molecule is a polypeptide which is covalently linked to an Ssp (or a portion thereof), e.g., by a peptide bond. Such molecules can be readily produced 30 first preparing a chimeric gene encoding the Ssp (or portion thereof) and the second molecule as a single polypeptide chain. This gene can be used to prepare the fusion protein for administration to a patient. Alternatively, the chimeric gene can be introduced into a

strain of Salmonella which can then be used as either a live vaccine or drug delivery system.

Ssp as Diagnostic Reagents

An Ssp can be used as a diagnostic tool for the

5 detection of Salmonella infection in a patient or to
evaluate status of an immune response to Salmonella. For
example, one or more Ssp can be used an antigen in an
ELISA assay to detect the presence of Salmonella-specific
antibodies in a bodily fluid, e.g., blood or plasma,

10 obtained from an infected patient or an individual
suspected of being infected with Salmonella. Ssp can
also be used to test immune cell activation, e.g., T or B
cell proliferation or cytokine production, in a sample of
patient-derived cells, e.g., peripheral blood mononuclear

15 cells, to detect the presence of a cellular immune
response to Salmonella.

Polynucleic acids (e.g., primers and probes)
encoding all or part of an Ssp can be used in
hybridization assays to detect the presence Salmonella
20 infection, e.g., using a PCR assay or other probe or
primer based assay designed to detect particular DNA
sequences.

Antibodies capable of selectively binding a particular Ssp can be used to detect the presence of Salmonella in a biological sample. Such antibodies can be produced using standard methods.

Therapeutic Applications of Ssp Fusion Proteins

Fusion proteins comprising all or part of an Ssp and a second protein or polypeptide are useful for a variety of therapeutic applications such as vaccines (e.g., recombinant Salmonella vaccines or vaccines against heterologous pathogens), cell targeting agents for delivery of drugs (e.g., cytotoxic agents), and adjuvants, (e.g., to boost an immune response to a co-administered antigen).

gene encoding an Ssp fusion protein can be introduced into a Salmonella vaccine. Because Ssp are involved in bacterial mediated endocytosis, the Ssp fusion protein will cause the second polypeptide or protein to be internalized by epithelial cells (or other cells to which the Ssp binds) of the individual to which the vaccine is administered. This internalization can trigger a Type I MHC-mediated response to the second protein or polypeptide. The induction of this response will lead to the induction of CTL (or the priming of CTL) specific for the second protein or polypeptide. The induction or priming of antigen-specific CTL can provide therapeutic or prophylactic benefits.

Purified fusion proteins can be used as recombinant vaccines. Proteins fused to Ssp are specifically targeted to epithelial cells or other cell types to which the Ssp bind; the fusion proteins are then internalized by the targeted cells. Thus, Ssp fusion proteins are useful to generate an immune response to the antigen to which the Ssp is linked or to deliver a therapeutic compound, e.g., a toxin for the treatment of cancer or autoimmune diseases in which the killing of specific cells, i.e., the cells to which a Ssp binds, is desired. Delivery of a toxin linked to a SspC or SspD polypeptide is especially useful in cancer therapy because man types of cancers are of epithelial cell origin.

Ssp fusion proteins which contain all or part of a 30 Ssp linked to a heterologous protein can be made using methods known in the art. Two or more polypeptides may be linked together via a covalent or non-covalent bond, or both. Non-covalent interactions can be ionic, hydrophobic, or hydrophilic.

A covalent linkage may take the form of a disulfide bond. For example, the DNA encoding one of the polypeptides can be engineered to contain a unique cysteine codon. The second polypeptide can be derivatized with a sulfhydryl group reactive with the cysteine of the first component. Alternatively, a sulfhydryl group, either by itself or as part of a cysteine residue, can be introduced using solid phase polypeptide techniques.

e.g., photoreactive crosslinkers, water-soluble crosslinkers, which are commercially available may be used to join a heterologous polypeptide to a Ssp to create a fusion protein. If the fusion protein is produced by expression of fused genes, a peptide bond serves as the link between the components of the fusion protein. Such fusion proteins are produced by expression of a chimeric gene in which sequences encoding all or part of an Ssp are in frame with sequences encoding the second protein or polypeptide. In some circumstances it may be useful to include a linker polypeptide between the Ssp and second protein of polypeptide.

Internalization of the fusion protein may not require the presence of a complete Ssp protein. A

25 internalization-competent portion of an Ssp will be adequate in many circumstances. Whether a particular portion of a selected Ssp is sufficient for internalization can be tested as follows. The selected portion of an Ssp is fused to a calmodulin-dependent

30 adenylate cyclase. If this test fusion protein ii internalized, it will be exposed to calmodulin and the cylcase will be activated. The presence of adenylate cyclase activity can then be used as a measure of internalization. This general approach is described by

35 Sorg et al. (Molecular Mcrobiol. 14:583-94, 1994).

Ssp are virulence factors that alter the ability of bacteria to be internalized by specific populations of host cells and to induce an immune response. Salmonella with mutations in genes encoding Ssp are useful in the manufacture of live Salmonella vaccines with altered cell tropism.

Deletion or overexpression of Ssp in Salmonella can be used to target strains or fusion proteins to various mammalian cell types. Invasion of epithelial 10 cells or macrophages can be selected depending on the Ssp mutated. For example, use of Salmonella as an antigen or drug delivery vehicle can be optimized by deleting part or all of a gene encoding a Ssp involved in bacterial mediated endocytosis (or mutating such a gene to impair 15 Ssp function), thereby minimizing the ability of Salmonella to invade epithelial cells (and therefor maximizing antigen delivery to antigen presenting cells such as macrophages). In this manner, strains with mutated Ssp genes can be used to modulate the host immune 20 system. Deletion of Ssp genes in Salmonella can also be used to alter the ability of Salmonella to stimulate IL-8 secretion by epithelial cells.

Fusions of antigens to Ssp genes can be used to facilitate an immune response to the linked antigens for the purpose of generating an antigen-specific cytotoxic T cell response in a patient. For example, Ssp fusions to viral antigens are useful as therapeutic vaccines for diseases such as AIDS and Herpes genitalis in which the generation of a cytotoxic T cell (CTL) response is desired. Delivery of antigens in this manner favors the generation of an antigen-specific CTL response because the Ssp portion of Ssp fusion protein mediates translocation of the fusion protein across eucaryotic cell membranes into the intracellular compartments in the cytoplasm of cells which participat class I MHC-mediated

antigen processing and presentation, i.e., the generation of class I MHC-restricted antigen-specific CTLs.

Fusion proteins which include all or part of a Ssp linked to a cytotoxic molecule can be used to target a cytotoxic molecule to a specific cell type, e.g., an epithelial cell-derived cancer cell, which would then by killed by the cytotoxic agent. Cytotoxic fusion proteins can be synthetically or recombinantly produced and administered directly to a patient. Alternatively, live Salmonella expressing a cytotoxic Ssp fusion protein can be administered and allowed to produce and secrete the fusion protein in vivo.

Ssp are also useful as adjuvants to boost the immunogenicity of antigens with which they are delivered or to which they are chemically or recombinantly linked. Ssp that have enzymatic effects, e.g., phosphatase activity, on certain types of eucaryotic cells can be used to promote specific types of immune responses such as TH2 or TH1 T cell responses. Since these proteins are secreted and are likely taken up in the cytoplasm of eucaryotic cells, gene fusions to these proteins are likely to be more immunogenic and more efficient in inducing the development of an immune response, particularly a class I MHC-restricted CTL response.

Various oral and parenteral delivery systems are known in the art and can be used to deliver the Ssp polypeptides and/or chimeric antigens of the invention, such as encapsulation in liposomes, or controlled release devices. The compositions of the invention can be formulated in a pharmaceutical excipient in the range of approximately 10 μg/kg and 10 mg/kg body weight.

The compositions and methods of the invention provide the tools with which to construct better vaccines against Salmonella infection and for the prevention and treatment of other diseases, e.g., cancer and AIDS, by

using Salmonella secreted proteins as carriers of heterologous antigens, e.g., tumor antigens or viral antigens, either as purified components or as hybrid proteins produced in live Salmonella vaccine strains.

5 Ssp and Attenuated Bacterial Strains

Deletion or mutation of one or more Ssp genes can be used to attenuate vaccine strains. For instance deletion of Ssp genes leads to lack of neutrophil transmigration across epithelial cell

10 monolayers (a model system that correlates well with the ability of certain strains to cause gastroenteritis).

Vaccine strains are usually administered at doses of 1×10^5 to 1×10^{10} cfu/single oral dose. Those skilled in the art can determine the correct dosage using standard techniques.

Research products

Ssp with enzymatic activity, e.g., Salmonella tyrosine phosphatase (stpA), can be used as reagents for protein modification. StpA catalyzes the release of 20 phosphate groups from tyrosine residues in proteins, and thus, is especially useful in the field of signal transduction. Since a number of eucaryotic and procaryotic signal transduction proteins are regulated by the phosphorylation and dephosphorylation of tyrosine 25 residues, stp can be used to deactivate or activate these proteins, thereby altering intracellular signal transduction. Thus, Stp can be used as a research tool to study and evaluate phosphorylation-regulated signal transduction pathways.

30 Modification of Ssp and Ssp Variants

When an Ssp is being used to translocate a second molecule into a eukaryotic cell, it may be useful increase expression of the Ssp (or Ssp fusion protein) so that BME is increased. Increased expression of sspC,

35 sspD and other ssp genes may be accomplished using

methods known in the art, e.g., by introducing multiple copies of the gene(s) into the bacterial cell or cloning the Ssp-encoding DNA under the control of a strong promoter.

Under other circumstances it may be desirable to increase uptake of a bacterial strain, e.g., a Salmonella strain, by a macrophage in a mammal by impairing the normal invasion mechanism of the strain. This can be accomplished by decreasing expression of the DNA encoding 10 the SspC and/or SspD (and thereby decreasing secretion of Ssp and/or SspD polypeptides) and administering the cell to the mammal. Ssp expression may be reduced using methods known in the art, e.g., insertion of a transposon (Tn) into the gene, deletion of some or all of the gene, 15 mutating a gene upon which SspC and/or SspD expression depends, e.g., prgH, e.g., a deletion or Tn insertion in the prgHIJK operon. Instead of decreasing the expression of sspC and/or sspD, the method may include the step of impairing the function of one or both of the gene 20 products, e.g., by Tn insertion, deletion mutagenesis, or by impairing the secretory pathway by which the gene products are secreted such that the gene products are produced but not effectively transported to the extracellular environment.

25 Example 1: PhoP/PhoO Transcriptional Repression of

S. typhimurium Invasion Genes: Evidence for a Role in

Protein Secretion

The PhoP-repressed prgH locus of S. typhimurium may be important for signaling epithelial cells to

30 endocytose S. typhimurium. The following series of experiments demonstrate that the prgH locus is an operon of four genes encoding polypeptides of 392 amino acids (prgH), 80 amino acids (prgI), 101 amino acids (prgJ), and 252 amino acids (prgK). These experiments also

demonstrate that expression of the 2.6-kb prgHIJK transcript is reduced when PhoP/PhoQ is activated, suggesting that PhoP/PhoQ regulates prgHIJK by transcriptional repression. Further, analysis of the 5 culture supernatants from wild-type S. typhimurium revealed the presence of at least 25 polypeptides larger than 14 kDa. Additional experiments demonstrated that prgH1::TnphoA, phoP constitutive (PhoPc), and hil deletion mutants have significantly defective supernatant 10 protein profiles. A further set of experiments described below demonstrate that both the invasion and supernatant protein profile defects of the prgH1::TnphoA mutant can be complemented by a 5.1 kb plasmid that included prgHIJK. Taken together these results suggest that 15 PhoP/PhoQ regulates extracellular transport of proteins by transcriptional repression of secretion determinants and that secreted proteins are likely involved in signaling epithelial cells to endocytose bacteria.

The following reagents and procedures were used to 20 evaluate the prgH locus.

Bacterial Strains, Growth and Conditions

S. typhimurium strain ATCC 14028s (American Type Culture Collection, Bethesda, MD) is a virulent wild-type parent strain from which all other Salmonella strains

25 described in Example 1 were derived. Bacterial strains and plasmids are described in Table 1. Luria-Bertani broth (LB) was used as rich bacterial growth medium. Antibiotics were added to LB broth or agar in the following concentrations: ampicillin, 25 µg/ml;

30 chloramphenicol, 50 µg/ml; kanamycin, 45 µg/ml.

DNA sequencing and analysis

Double-strand templates were sequenced by the dideoxy-chain termination method known in the art as modified for use with SequenaseTM (US Biochemicals, Corp.) and $[\alpha^{-35}S]$ dATP. Computer analysis of the DNA sequence

was accomplished with the GENEPRO (Riverside Scientific, Riverside, CA) and Wisconsin package (GCG, version 7) programs. The nucleotide sequence of the prgHIJK locus has been deposited in GeneBank under accession number 5 U21676.

RNA extraction, RNA blot analyses, and primer extension analyses

RNA was isolated from mid-log phase cultures

(OD₆₀₀ = 0.5) of aerobically-grown (with shaking) and

10 microaerophically-grown (without shaking) Salmonella

strains using a standard hot phenol procedure (Pulkkinen et al., J. Bacteriol. 173:86-93, 1993). For RNA blots,

20 μg of RNA was diluted in H₂0 and incubated for 15

minutes at 55°C in 50% formamide, 17.5% formaldehyde in 1

15 × Northern buffer (0.36 M Na₂HPO₄-7H₂O, 0.04 M

NaH₂PO₄-H₂O). Samples were run on 1% agarose gels containing 6% formaldehyde and 1 × Northern buffer and were transferred to Gene Screen Plus membranes

(NEN/Dupont). RNA was crosslinked to the membrane using a StratalinkerTM UV crosslinker (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). Membranes were hybridized and washed according to the manufacturer's protocol.

The DNA probes for RNA-DNA and DNA-DNA blot hybridization were obtained from recombinant plasmid DNA by restriction endonuclease digestion or by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the GeneAmpTM PCR kit (Perkin-Elmer/Cetus). The following DNA probes were synthesized: a 841-bp prgH probe from the oligonucleotide primers IB07 (5'-CCAGGTGGATACGGA-3'; SEQ ID NO: 17; nucleotides 1198 to 1212) and IB19 (5'-TAGCGTCCTCCCCATGTGCG-3'; SEQ ID NO: 18; nucleotides 2039 to 2021); a 433-bp prgI-prgJ probe from the primers IB26 (5'-CCGGCGCTACTGGCGGCG-3'; SEQ ID NO: 19), nucleotides 2304 to 2321) and DP04

35 (5'AGCGTTTCAACAGCCCCG-3'; SEQ ID NO: 20), nucleotides

20

2737 to 2719); a 341-bp prgK probe from primers DP03 (5'-CGGGGCTGTTGAAACGC-3'; SEQ ID NO: 21), nucleotides 2720 to 2736) and DP08 (5'-AACCTGGCCTTTTCAG-3'; SEQ ID NO: 22), nucleotides 3060 to 3045); a 724-bp org probe 5 from primers DP15 (5'-GGCAGGGAGCCTTGCTTGG-3'; SEQ ID NO: 23), nucleotides 3774 to 3792) and DP17 (5'-GTGCCTGGCCAGTTCTCCA-3'; SEQ ID NO: 24); and a 608-bp pagC probe from a Psi and StuI restriction-endonuclease digest of pWPL4 that contains the wild-type pagC gene. 10 DNA probes were radiolabelled using a standard method of random priming with $[\alpha^{-32}P]dCTP$.

For primer extension analyses, oligonucleotide primers (0.2 picomoles) were end-labelled with $[\gamma^{-32}P]dATP$ (NEN/Dupont), annealed to S. typhimurium RNA (20µg) and 15 extended with reverse transcriptase (Gibco BRL, St. Louis, MO). Reactions were electrophoresed in 6% polyacrylamide, 8 M urea gels adjacent to sequencing reactions initiated with primers used for cDNA synthesis. DNA blot hybridization analysis

Chromosomal DNA was isolated, restriction endonuclease digested, size fractionated in agarose gels, and transferred to GeneScreen Plus membranes (NEN/Dupont). For dot blot hybridization experiments, high stringency hybridization was performed according to 25 standard methods at 65°C using radiolabelled probes. Protein isolation and analysis

Bacteria were grown in LB, with shaking at 37°C. Bacterial cultures were chilled to 4°C and centrifuged at $154,000 \times q$ for 1.7 hours. The supernatant was carefully 30 removed and trichloroacetic acid (TCA) was added to a final concentration of 10%. The precipitates were collected by centrifugation at 69,000 x g for 1 hour, rinsed with cold acetone, dried and stored at 4°C. bacterial cell pellet was fractionated to obtain 35 periplasmic, cytoplasmic, and membrane fractions.

Samples were analyzed by sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) on a 10-12% polyacrylamide (0.1 M Tris pH 8.45, 0.1% SDS) gel using a standard Tris-glycine buffer system or 5 standard Tris-tricine buffer system. TCA precipitates were mixed with sample buffer (250 mM Tris pH 6.8, 2% SDS, 0.0025% bromophenol blue, 5.0% β-mercaptoethanol, 10% glycerol) and heated to 100°C for 5 minutes. Proteins were visualized by staining with Coomassie 10 Brilliant Blue R-250.

Enzyme assays

Presence of the marker enzymes, alkaline phosphatase (periplasm) and β -galactosidase (cytoplasm) were used to assess fraction purity. A plasmid, pPOS3, 15 containing an arabinose-inducible phoA gene, was inserted into wild-type strain 14028s by transformation and moved into other strains using P22 bacteriophage-mediated transduction. Addition of arabinose (0.02%) to the culture medium induced transcription of the phoA gene. 20 Determination of alkaline phosphatase activity of strains containing pPOS3 was performed using the substrate p-Nitrophenyl phosphate according to standard methods. The results were expressed in standard units for β -galactosidase (Miller, J.H., 1972, Experiments in 25 Molecular Genetics, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., pp. 352-355). β -galactosidase was produced from a strain with a mudJ-generated gene fusion of msg and lacz. The gene, msg, is constitutively expressed and not PhoP regulated. β -galactosidase 30 activity of strains carrying msq::MudJ was measured using

routine methods (Miller et al., supra).

Table 1. Bacterial strains, plasmids and relevant properties

	s. typnimurium	Relevant genotype
	ATCC 14028s	Wild Type
5	CS002	pho-24
	CS019	phoN2zxx::6251Tn10d-Cm
	IB040	CS019 with prgH1::TnphoA
	IB043	IBO40 with pWKSH5
	CS015	phoP-102::Tn10d-Cm
10	CS451	14028s derivative of EE451 with Δhil

Escherichia coli

DH5a

20.

F-484dlacZaM15a (lacZYA-argF) U169endA1 recAlhsdR17deoRthi-1supE44AgyrA96relA1

<u>Plasmids</u>

15 pIB01: pUC19 (amp^R) containing a 10.7-kb *Eco*RV fragment with *prgH1*::Tn*phoA* (kan^R)

pVB3 pUC19 containing a 5.9-kb HindIII-EcoRI fragment of the prgH_locus

pWKSH5 pWKS30 (amp^R) containing a 5.1-kb *Hind*III fragment of prgH locus

pWPL4 pUC19 containing a 5.0-kb EcoRV fragment of the pagC locus

pPOS5 pBR322 containing arabinose-inducible PhoA

Cloning and sequencing of praH

- The DNA containing the prgH1::TnphoA gene fusion was cloned based upon information derived from the physical map of restriction endonuclease sites surrounding the transposon insertion (Fig. 1) (Behlau et al., J. Bacteriol. 175:4475-4484, 1993, hereby
- incorporated by reference). Chromosomal DNA from strain IB040 containing the prgH1::TnphoA insertion was digested with the restriction endonuclease EcoRV and ligated into SmaI digested pUC19 to generate a library of recombinant plasmids. These recombinant plasmids were transformed
- 35 into Escherichia coli (E. coli) DH5α. A recombinant plasmid containing a 10.7 kb EcoRV fragment was identified by selecting for kanamycin resistance (TnphoA

encoded) and was designated pIBO1 (Fig. 1). DNA hybridization analysis of strain IBO40 with a radiolabelled 1.5-kb HindIII-SacI-generated DNA fragment of pIBO1 resulted in hybridization to an approximately 10.7-kb EcoRV DNA fragment. This was approximately 7.7 kb (the size of TnphoA) larger than the 3-kb fragment present in the wild-type strain ATCC 14028s. This probe also hybridized strongly to plasmid pVB3 that contained the 5.9 kb HindIII-EcoRI fragment of the hil locus (Fig.

10 1), confirming the location of the prgH locus within this region. This data indicated DNA containing the prgH1::TnphoA insertion had been cloned.

The DNA sequence of the 4,034-bp HindIII-SspI fragment (within which the TnphoA insertion in prqH was 15 localized) was determined by sequencing plasmid pIB01 containing the cloned prgH1::TnphoA allele. This sequence was confirmed by DNA sequencing of pWKSH5 containing the wild-type prgH allele (Fig. 1). Information from DNA sequence of the prgH1::phoA fusion 20 junction was used to determine the direction of transcription and correct reading frame of prgH. was inserted after nucleotide 1548 within an open reading frame that extended from nucleotides 981 to 2156. prqH was predicted to encode a 392 amino acid polypeptide with 25 a calculated M_r of 44,459 daltons and pI of 5.86. N-terminal portion of prgH was found to have a stretch of nonpolar residues followed by the motif Leu-Xaa-Gly-Cys at residues 24 to 27 (corresponding to nucleotides 1050 to 1061) characteristic of the processing site of 30 bacterial lipoproteins. There was a strong hydrophobic domain (amino-acid residue 144 to 154, corresponding to nucleotides 1410 to 1433) upstream of the TnphoA insertion.

Analysis of the nucleotide sequence located 35 upstream of prgH revealed an additional open reading

frame from nucleotides 665 to 222, termed orf1, likely to be oppositely transcribed from prgH. The intergenic region between orf1 and prgH was 216 nucleotides. orf1 was predicted to encode a gene product of 148-amino-acid 5 residues with a calculated M, of 17,186. The start codon of orf1 was preceded by a potential ribosome binding site at 7 to 11 nucleotides 5' to the predicted start of translation (5'-AAAGG-3', nucleotides 676 to 672) suggesting that this open reading frame was translated.

10 The orf1 predicted gene product had no signal sequence nor any strong hydrophobic domains.

Identification of prqI, prqJ, and prqK

Analysis of the nucleotide sequence located downstream from prgH revealed four additional open 15 reading frames that were predicted to be transcribed in the same direction and form an operon: (a) nucleotides 2184 to 2423; (b) nucleotides 2445 to 2747; (c) nucleotides 2747 to 3502; and (d) nucleotide 3476 to beyond the 3' SspI site. The first three of these four 20 open reading frames identified were designated prgI, prgJ, and prgK respectively. prgI, prgJ, and prgK were predicted to encode gene products of 80 amino acids (M., 8865 daltons), 101 amino acids (M., 10,929 daltons), and 252 amino acids (Mr, 28,210 daltons). The predicted gene 25 products encoded by prgI and prgJ did not contain a signal sequence or strong hydrophobic domains. The predicted gene product encoded by prgK contained a N-terminal hydrophobic region followed by a potential lipoprotein processing site from amino-acid residue 15 to 30 18 (corresponding to nucleotides 2788 to 2800). fourth open reading frame corresponded in DNA sequence to the S. typhimurium oxygen-regulated gene (org). prgH-K transcription is negatively regulated by PhoP/PhoQ

To determine whether prgH was negatively regulated 35 by PhoP/PhoQ, RNA isolated from wild-type (ATCC 14028s)

and Phop^C (CS022) strains of *S. typhimurium* were analyzed. In numerous RNA blot analyses, the prgH-specific DNA probe hybridized with an approximately a 2600-nucleotide RNA from the wild-type strain (Fig. 2). The size of the RNA that hybridized to the prgH probe was similar to that of the *prgH-K* open reading frame

- similar to that of the prgH-K open reading frame predicted from the DNA sequence (i.e., 2600 vs. 2522 nucleotides). In contrast, no transcript was seen when equal amounts and similar quality of RNA (as assessed by
- 10 methylene blue staining) isolated from the Phop^C strain was probed with prgH-specific DNA (Fig. 3). In comparison, when the same RNA preparations were hybridized with a pagC-specific probe, an approximately 1100-nucleotide pagC transcript was highly expressed in
- the Phop^C strain (Fig. 2), consistent with the constitutive phenotype of pag gene expression in the Phop^C mutant (Pulkkinen et al., J. Bacteriol. 173:86-93, 1991, hereby incorporated by reference). These results indicate that regulation of prgH occurs at the level of transcription.

Primer extension analysis was performed to obtain information on the possible initiation site of prgH transcription. Based on this analysis, the start of prgH transcription was predicted to begin approximately

- 25 32 nucleotides upstream from the prgH translational start (Fig. 3). Several different primers were used that resulted in primer extension products of differing lengths, but all predicted that transcription initiated at this site. The predicted -10 (5'-TAATCT-3') and -35
- 30 (5'-TTCATC-3') regions are similar to the consensus sequences for typical α70 E. coli promoters. Similar to the results of RNA blot hybridization analysis, a primer extension product was detected only with RNA isolated from wild-type S. typhimurium and not with RNA isolated
- 35 from the $PhoP^{C}$ strain (Fig. 3).

The size of the RNA that hybridized to the prgH-specific probe suggested that prgH-K could form a transcriptional unit. Therefore, to determine whether prgI-K formed an operon that was regulated by PhoP/PhoQ, 5 RNA blot hybridization and primer extension analysis were performed using DNA probes and primers specific to the prqI, prqJ, and prqK open reading frames. Similar to the results with prgH, the prgI-J- and prgK-specific DNA probes hybridized with an approximately 2600-nucleotide 10 RNA isolated from wild-type S. typhimurium and not with RNA from the Phop^C strain (Fig. 2). No primer extension products less than 350 nucleotides were detected using RNA isolated from either the wild-type or Phop^C strains using prgI, prgJ, and prgK primers. These primers were 15 from 1662 to 2332 nucleotides downstream from the predicted start of prgH transcription. These findings indicated that prqH-K were transcribed as an operon, heretofore referred to as prgHIJK. Furthermore, this operon was likely to be transcribed from the proH 20 promoter and was negatively regulated by PhoP at the level of transcription.

org is not regulated by PhoP/PhoO

Although the above results suggested that the prgHIJK transcriptional unit did not include org,
25 experiments were performed to test this possibility.
Blot hybridization analysis was performed with RNA isolated from wild-type S. typhimurium and an org-specific DNA probe. As shown in Fig. 2, two distinct transcripts hybridized to the org probe: an approximately 1400-nucleotide abundant RNA and a minor RNA of approximately 3800 nucleotides. The size of the smaller RNA was similar to that of the org open reading frame (1400 vs. 1236 nucleotides). In comparison, only the major 1400-nucleotide RNA was seen when RNA from the Phop^C strain was hybridized with the org-specific DNA

probe, suggesting that the 3800-nucleotide RNA was Phop repressed.

A minor RNA of approximately 3800 nucleotides also was detected in long exposure of wild-type RNA blots that 5 were hybridized with either the prgH, prgI-J, or prgK probes, suggesting possible cotranscription of prgHIJK and org. However, both the major (1400 nucleotide) and minor (3800 nucleotide) transcripts were detected when RNA isolated from the prgH1::TnphoA strain was

- 10 hybridized with the org probe, indicating that the prgH1::TnphoA insertion was not polar on either of the org transcripts. Because expression of an org::lacZY fusion was shown to be increased approximately fourteen fold in low-oxygen compared with high-oxygen tension, RNA
- from wild-type and PhoP^C strains that were grown aerobically or microaerophically to an optical density at 260 nm of 0.5 were compared by blot hybridization with the org-specific DNA probe. No substantial difference was seen in the relative amounts of RNA transcripts
- 20 detected in wild-type or Phop^C strains grown under these conditions. These data indicate that *org* did not form part of the *prgHIJK* operon and that it was not regulated by Phop/PhoQ.
- The prgI, prgJ, and prgK predicted polypeptides are

 25 similar to S. flexneri Mxi and Y. enterocolitica Ysc
 proteins

The sequences of the five predicted polypeptides (PrgH, PrgI, PrgJ, PrgK, and Orfl were compared with the protein sequences translated from the GeneBank library using BLAST network software. This comparison revealed similarity between the predicted products of prgI, prgJ, and prgK and the MxiH, MxiI, and MxiJ proteins of S. flexneri. Each of the these polypeptide sequences were similar over their entire length, with 65% (PrgI vs. MxiH), 38% (PrgJ vs. MxiI), and 46% (PrgK vs. MxiJ) of

positions occupied by identical residues (Figs. 4A-4C). The prgI and prgK predicted gene products were also similar to the YscF and YscJ proteins, respectively, of Y. enterocolitica, with 28% and 308 of positions occupied by identical residues. The Poisson probabilities were highly significant for each of these comparisons. No protein similar to the prgH or orfl predicted polypeptides was detected in the protein sequence library.

10 <u>Isolation of proteins from S. typhimurium culture</u> <u>supernatants</u>

The role of prgHIJK in S. typhimurium protein secretion was analyzed by examination of the proteins present in cell culture supernatant. Culture media of wild-type bacteria was collected for protein analysis by centrifuging stationary phase cultures at 154,000 × g for 1.7 hours. From 6-8 µg/ml of protein was precipitated by addition of trichloroacetic acid (TCA) to overnight culture supernatants. The TCA-precipitable material in 2 ml of supernatant then was fractionated by sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) (Fig. 5). Approximately 25 protein bands, ranging in molecular mass from 18-87 kDa, were detected by Coomassie brilliant blue staining.

To rule out the possibility that the supernatant protein bands represented proteins released from lysed cells, soluble and membrane fractions of whole cells and whole cell lysates were compared with proteins from the supernatant by SDS-PAGE (Fig. 5). Many of the major polypeptides in the supernatant (e.g., the polypeptide with molecular mass of 87 kDa) were not the major proteins in the other cellular fractions. Conversely, major intracellular soluble proteins and membrane proteins (e.g., the 36 kDa OmpC porin) were not detected in the supernatant in this analysis. In addition,

phase (Fig. 6).

following centrifugation, the overnight culture media from bacteria expressing alkaline phosphatase (a periplasmic protein) and β -galactosidase (a cytoplasmic protein) always contained less than 9% and 1%,

- 5 respectively, of the whole-cell activity of these enzymes. Although some of the supernatant protein bands may represent degradation products of larger protein species, these data indicate that S. typhimurium was capable of significant protein secretion.
- 10 To determine the timing of release of polypeptides in to the supernatant and to test for an effect of PhoP regulon mutations on secretion, supernatants from CS015, with a null mutation in PhoP (PhoP⁻), CS022 (PhoP^C), and wild-type bacteria (ATCC 14208s) were compared. As shown in Fig. 6, the quantity of protein increased for each strain when supernatant samples taken from mid-log-phase (OD₆₀₀ = 0.6), late-log/early-stationary-phase (OD₆₀₀ = 1.1), and stationary-phase (OD₆₀₀ = 2.2) were compared. However, the pattern of major protein bands detected for each strain was unchanged from mid-log to stationary

Altered supernatant protein profiles of mutants defective in signaling epithelial cells

At each phase of growth examined, a similar

25 pattern and quantity of protein was detected in the
culture supernatants of PhoP strain CS015 and wild-type
bacteria (Fig. 6). In contrast, the protein level of 2
ml of PhoP strain CS022 supernatant was 24% of wild type
levels. At least 10 major protein bands seen in the

30 wild-type supernatant were greatly reduced or
undetectable by Coomassie blue staining of the CS022
supernatant, especially those of higher molecular weight
(Fig. 6). In addition, four major protein bands appeared
to be increased in amount in CS022 compared with

35 wild-type supernatant (31.5 kDa, 30 kDa, 23 kDa, and 20

kDa) (Fig. 6). Although this result could be due to degradation of higher molecular weight polypeptides, these data suggest that the PhoP^C mutant likely was defective in synthesis or secretion of Ssp.

The defect observed with the Phop^C mutant was consistent with prg gene products having a role in protein secretion. Therefore, the Ssp of strains having transposon insertion or deletion of prqHIJK were compared to wild-type bacteria (ATCC 14028s) by SDS-PAGE. 10 observed for the PhoP^C mutant, IBO40 (prgH1::TnphoA) and CS451, containing a 10-kb deletion of hil locus (Ahil) DNA, each had a pronounced defect in their Ssp profile compared with the wild-type strain (Fig. 6 and 7). and CS451 culture supernatants contained 100% and 62%, 15 respectively, of wild-type protein levels. At least 5 and 11 major protein bands seen in the wild-type supernatant were greatly reduced or undetectable by Coomassie blue staining of the IB040 and CS451, respectively. Five protein bands [87 kDa, 65 kDa, and 20 three in the 35-40 kDa range (Fig. 7), two of which run as a doublet under different electrophoretic conditions (Fig. 6)] were undetectable in the supernatants of CS022, IB040, and CS451. These findings indicated that the presence of at least some of the products of the prgHIJK 25 operon were necessary for synthesis or secretion of Ssp.

The defect in bacterial mediated endocytosis associated with prgH1::TnphoA was complemented by a low-copy number plasmid, pWKSH5, containing a 5.1-kb fragment including prgHIJK, org, and orfl. Consistent with this observation, the prgH1::TnphoA mutant carrying pWKSH5 (strain IB043) had a supernatant protein profile similar to that of wild type (Fig. 7). Of the five protein bands undetectable or greatly reduced in culture supernatants of prgH1::TnphoA, each was detected in IB043 and three of them were increased in amount (87 kDa, 65

20

kDa, and 35 kDa) compared with wild-type supernatants. This finding demonstrates a correlation between the ability to secrete proteins and induction of epithelial cell bacterial mediated endocytosis.

5 The profit locus is important for S. typhimurium to induce endocytosis by epithelial cells

The defect in BME of the prgH1:: TnphoA mutant is complemented by a plasmid containing 5.1 kb of DNA from this region, indicating that the gene or genes disrupted 10 by the prgH1:: TnphoA insertion are important for BME. Analysis of the DNA sequence of this region identified six potential open reading frames that could be affected by this transposon insertion. As depicted in Fig. 1, five of these open reading frames, namely those 15 designated prgH-K are either disrupted (i.e., prgH) or are 3' to the prgH1::TnphoA insertion. The orfl translational start is 884 nucleotides upstream from the TnphoA insertion and that orfl is predicted to be oppositely transcribed from the prgHIJK operon.

An approximately 2600 nucleotide PhoP-repressed transcript was detected when RNA was hybridized with prgH-, prgI-J-, or prgK-specific DNA probes. In contrast, the predominant transcripts detected with org was smaller (approximately 1400 nucleotides), was not 25 altered in the prgH1:: TnphoA mutant, and was not repressed by PhoP. Primer extension analysis of the potential start site of transcription, the size of the prgHIJK transcript, and the presence of a potential transcriptional terminator immediately downstream of prok 30 also were consistent with transcription terminating before org.

In addition to the major transcripts of prqHIJK and org, a minor PhoP-repressed transcript of approximately 3800 nucleotides also was detected in 35 multiple RNA blots hybridized with the org and prgH,

prgI-J, or prgK DNA probes. This minor RNA was similar
in size to the combined prgHIJK and org open reading
frames (i.e., 3731 nucleotides) and, thus, could
represent cotranscription of prgHIJK and org. However,
both the 3800- and 1400-nucleotide transcripts were
detected in RNA from the prgH1::TnphoA mutant suggesting
that the 3800-nucleotide RNA did not represent
cotranscription of prgHIJK and org. These data indicate
that one or more genes in the prgHIJK operon are
important to BME of epithelial cells.

A PhoP constitutive mutation repressed the synthesis of approximately 20 prg-encoded cell-associated protein species (Miller et al., J. Bacteriol. 172:2485-2490, 1990, herein incorporated by reference). Although 15 PhoP/PhoQ has been shown to transcriptionally activate pag (Miller et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:5054-5058, 1989, herein incorporated by reference; Pulkkinen et al., supra, herein incorporated by reference), the mechanism of protein repression by PhoP/PhoQ had not been 20 characterized prior to the present studies. transcript was detected when RNA from the PhoP. constitutive mutant was probed with prgH-, prgI-J-, or prgK-specific DNA, indicating that the prgHIJK operon was negatively regulated by PhoP/PhoQ at the level of 25 transcription. Thus, PhoP/PhoQ can both activate and repress transcription of virulence genes.

Consistent with the role of one or more of the products of prgHIJK in bacterial mediated endocytosis and possibly in protein secretion, a low-copy plasmid

30 containing 5.1 kb of DNA (IB043), including prgHIJK, org, and orfl, complemented both the bacterial mediated endocytosis defect and the supernatant protein profile defect of the prgH1::TnphoA mutant. Based upon its similarity to MxiJ and YscJ, which are

35 membrane-associated lipoproteins that are necessary for

export and secretion of Ipa and Yops protein respectively, the prgK gene product is most likely to have such a role in bacterial mediated endocytosis and protein secretion. Similar to PrgK, PrgH was predicted to be a membrane lipoprotein. However, in contrast to prgI-K, which are similar to plasmid-encoded genes of Shigella and Yersinia spp., a prgH DNA probe hybridized to chromosomal DNA but not virulence-plasmid DNA from Shigella spp.

Neither they nor the prgI or prgJ predicted gene products have signal sequences or long hydrophobic domains that suggest their cellular localization.

However, the location of these genes within operons that encode secretion determinants suggests that they may have a role in this process.

The predicted gene products of the prgHIJK operon were found to be similar to gene products required for protein secretion in other bacterial species. analysis of proteins present in culture supernatants of 20 S. typhimurium was performed. These experiments revealed that the supernatants of wild-type cultures contained a large number of protein bands, whereas strains with mutations affecting the prgH locus, including prgH1::TnphoA, Ahil and PhoP^C were each defective in 25 protein secretion as assessed by Ssp profiles. analysis suggested that PhoP/PhoQ could control protein secretion, at least in part, by repressing prgHIJK whose products could form part of a secretion machinery. Furthermore, the finding that Phop^C and Ahil mutants were 30 associated with greater defects in their Ssp profile compared with the prgH1::TnphoA mutant suggested that more than one mechanism may be involved in protein secretion and that gene products encoded by the 10 kb region that is deleted in the hil mutant also contribute 35 to secretion of Ssp.

Since the strains with altered Ssp profiles were each impaired in signaling epithelial cells, these data suggest that Ssp are involved in signaling such cells to initiate BME. The finding that five Ssp were missing from culture supernatants of the prgH mutant suggested that one or more of these proteins were specifically involved in BME, e.g., Ssp and/or prgHIJK gene products may form a structure on the surface of S. typhimurium which induces bacterial mediated endocytosis.

S. typhimurium strains with transposons inserted between prgH and spa that result in reduced bacterial mediated endocytosis were also missing a subset of the Ssp missing from the prgHIJK mutant. DNA sequence analysis of the regions flanking the transposon insertions revealed deduced protein sequences that were similar to IpaB and IpaD of S. flexneri. These data suggest that the transposon insertions define an operon in S. typhimurium that encodes Ipa homologues.

Example 2: Salmonella typhimurium Secreted Invasion 20 Determinants

Two Salmonella typhimurium secreted protein (Ssp) mutants with transposon insertions located between spaT and prgH were identified. One mutant lacks the 87 kDa Ssp, while the other lacks Ssp of 87, 42, and 36 kDa.

25 The invasiveness of these mutants implicates the 42 and 36 kDa Ssp, but not the 87 kDa Ssp in invasion. DNA sequencing of this region identified two complete and two partial open reading frames (designated sspB, sspC, sspD, and sspA).

The deduced amino acid sequences of sspBCDA are homologous to Shigella flexneri secreted proteins IpaB, IpaC, IpaD, and IpaA. Complementation analyses and amino-terminal sequencing showed that sspC and sspA encode the 42 kDa and the 87 kDa Ssp and that both

proteins are secreted without amino-terminal processing.

SspA is abundantly secreted by wild type bacteria but is completely retained within the cellular fraction of a mutant in prgHIJK encoding part of the Ssp secretion

5 apparatus. A precipitate containing SspC and three major Ssp of 63, 59, and 22 kDa was isolated from culture supernatants of wild type bacteria. These data indicate that major secreted invasion determinants of S. typhimurium are structurally and functionally homologous to S. flexneri Ipa proteins.

The following reagents and experimental procedures were used to characterize Ssp.

Construction of plasmids and strains:

To construct pCH002, pVV8-1 was cut with EcoRI,

the 11 kb fragment eluted from a 1% agarose gel and
cloned into the EcoRI site of pWSK29. In pCH002,
transcription of sspCDA is driven from the lac promoter.
pCH004 was constructed by cloning the 3 kb BamHI fragment
from pCH002 into the BamHI site of pWSK29. pCH005

contains the 4 kb EcoRI-PvuII fragment from pCH002 cloned
into EcoRI-HincII restricted pWSK29. pCH006 was
constructed by restriction of pCH005 with NcoI and
religation of the 1.7 kb and the 5 kb fragment. The
correct orientations of the cloned inserts were confirmed
by appropriate restriction analyses.

PCR of a chromosomal fragment of EE638 comprising the 5'-region of Tn5lacZY and adjacent DNA was performed in three independent experiments by using primers OL 1 (5' CGCGGATCCATTATGGGATGTATCGG 3'; SEQ ID NO: 25) and OL2 (5' CCGGCAGCAAAATGTTGCAG 3'; SEQ ID NO: 26). The 0.8 kb amplified DNA fragments were then restricted with BamHI and cloned into pWSK29 for sequencing. All three sequences were identical.

Strain VB122 (hilA::kan-112) was constructed as 35 follows: the mutation was originally constructed on a

plasmid by inserting a kan cassette (Pharmacia Biotech, Piscateway, NJ) in a HincII site in the 5' region of the hila coding sequence. The plasmid-encoded hila::kan-112 mutation was recombined into the chromosome, and the chromosomal mutation was confirmed by PCR analysis.

Mutant EE633 (lacZY4) was isolated by screening for oxygen regulated gene fusions created by random Tn5lacZY insertions in S. typhimurium VV114 (hilA::kan-114) and further selection for insertions linked to a hilA::kan-114 by P22 transduction into S. typhimurium SL1344 and selection for Tet^R and Kan^R.

Media and growth conditions for bacterial
cultures:

Bacteria were grown in LB broth at 37°C. If
15 necessary, selection was carried out using 50 μg/ml
ampicillin, 10 μg/ml tetracycline, or 25 μg/ml kanamycin.

Preparation and analysis of S. typhimurium supernatant
proteins:

Bacterial cultures were grown for 16 to 17 hours
in 12 ml LB in 1.5 × 14 cm glass tubes at 37°C on a TC-7
roller (New Brunswick, Edison, NJ) at 50 rev./min.
Soluble proteins from culture supernatants were obtained
as described above. Precipitates in the culture were
retrieved, rinsed 5 times with 1 ml H₂O, dissolved in
25 sample buffer (4% SDS, 12% glycerol, 5%
β-mercaptoethanol, 0.05 M Tris-HCl pH 6.8, 0.01%
bromphenol blue), and resolved in 10% polyacrylamide gels
using SDS-PAGE and a Tris-Tricine buffer.
Immunoblotting:

30 Whole cell samples were prepared from overnight cultures using standard methods with the additional step of filtering the culture through a Whatman 1 qualitative paper filter (Whatman International, Maidstone, Kent, England) before centrifugation. The proteins were 35 resolved by SDS-PAGE and transferred to nitrocellulose by

electroblotting using a conventional transfer buffer.

Western blots were incubated with polyclonal rabbit serum prepared against the 87 kDa Ssp. The immunogen was purified by SDS-PAGE and injected into New Zealand White

5 rabbits (Charles River, Wilmington, MA). Serum was collected after two booster injections and subsequently absorbed with an acetone powder prepared from S. typhimurium strain EE63. Horseradish peroxidase-labelled goat anti-rabbit antibodies were used to label the

10 primary antibodies and were visualized using chemiluminescence (ECL, Amersham, International, Buckinghamshire, England)

Invasion assays:

Invasion of HEp-2 epithelial cells was carried out according to the method of Behlau et al. (*J. Bacteriol*. 175:4475-4484, 1993). To minimize epithelial cell detachment from the bottom of the assay wells after bacterial uptake, the following modifications were introduced: invasion time was reduced from 90 to 60 min and gentamicin treatment was performed for 15 min with 100 μg/ml gentamicin, conditions which were shown to kill 99% of a bacterial culture of 2 × 10⁸ cells/ml. N-terminal protein sequencing:

Proteins separated by SDS-PAGE were blotted on 25 PVDF membranes (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA) and stained with Ponceau-S. Blotted proteins were sequenced using an ABI 470A protein sequencer with 120A PTH-AA analyzer.

IB04

prgH1::TnphoA

Table 7: Strains and plasmids used in this example Bacterial strain Marker

E. coli DH5a F-\$80dlacZaM15a (lacZYA-argF) U169endA1 $recA1hsdR17(r_K^-,$

5 m_K⁺) deoRthi-lsupE44λgyrA96relA1

```
S. typhimurium SL1344 wild type
     VV114
                                       hil::kan-114
                                       Kan<sup>R</sup>, hilA::kan-112
     VB122
                                              Tet<sup>R</sup>, invF::lacZY11-5
Tet<sup>R</sup>, sspA::lacZY4
Tet<sup>R</sup>, sspC::lacZY11-6
     EE637
10 EE633
     EE638
     S. typhimurium
                                       wild type
     (ATCC14028s)
    .CS451- ---
                                              14028sahil::Tn5-428
15 CS022
                                              pho-24 (PhoP<sup>c</sup>)
```

<u>Plasmid</u> <u>Marker</u>

AmpR pWSK29 pVV8-1 TetR 20 pVV71 Amp^R Amp^R, sspCl Amp^R, sspC sspCDA, hilA pCH002 pCH004 pCH005 Amp^R, sspCD Amp^R, sspD pCH006

25 Identification of S. typhimurium Mutants with Transposon Insertions in Genes Encoding Ssp

To identify genes encoding Ssp, Tn5lacZY mutants of S. typhimurium SL1344 with transposon insertions located within the 40 kb "virulence island" (59-60 min.

- 30 of the S. typhimurium chromosome) were analyzed for changed patterns in Ssp. An insertion in invF (invF::lacZY11-5), the first gene of the inv-spa operon, and a hilA::kan-122 insertion in VB122 led to major defects in the pattern of Ssp similar to a mutation in
- 35 the prgHIJK operon (prgH1::TnphoA) which has implicated in S. typhimurium protein secretion (see Example 1). Specifically, all three mutants lack 5 major Ssp of 36, 38, 42, 63 and 87 kDa, while the hilA::kan-112 insertion leads to loss of some lower molecular weight protein
- 40 bands in addition to these 5 Ssp (Fig. 8, lanes 4, 5, 6).

Two other mutants exhibited detectable loss of only one and of three Ssp, respectively. The supernatants from the mutant strain EE633 containing the fusion lacZY4 were missing a protein of 87 kDa, while supernatants from the 5 mutant strain EE638, containing fusion lacZY11-6, were missing protein species of 87, 42 and 36 kDa. addition, supernatants from EE638 showed an increased abundance of a 63 kDa Ssp (Fig. 8, lanes 2, 3). in EE638 maps approximately 2.5 kb downstream from spaT 10 while in EE633 the transposon maps 5.5 kb downstream from spaT as determined by Southern hybridization and PCR analyses. Both transposons were inserted in the same orientation (Fig. 9). A degenerate pool of oligonucleotides synthesized according to the sequence of 15 the 12 amino-terminal amino acids of the 87 kDa protein (VTSVRTQPPVIM; SEQ ID NO: 27), hybridized specifically to a 5.5 kb BamHI fragment in pVV71 which comprises sequences between hild and spaT (Fig. 9). indicate that the 87 kDa Ssp is encoded in the 20 chromosomal region adjacent to the transposon insertions. Tn5lacZY in EE633 is likely to be directly within the gene encoding the 87 kDa Ssp, while Tn5lacZY in EE638 is likely to be inserted within one of the genes encoding the 42 and the 36 kDa Ssp having a polar effect on the 25 synthesis of the other two Ssp missing in supernatants of this mutant.

Secretion of the 87 Ssp kDa Ssp is Dependent on prgHIJK

Since it was possible that the absence of the 87
kDa Ssp (Ssp87) in supernatants of EE633 and EE638 was
due to impaired secretion rather than expression, whole
cell lysates and supernatants of various strains were
analyzed by immunoblotting with antiserum raised against
partially purified Ssp87. Fig. 11 shows that Ssp87 of
wild type S. typhimurium is found mainly in the
supernatant, although some of the protein is detected in

the cellular fraction (Fig. 11, lane 1). In contrast to wild type bacteria, all of the protein is found in the cellular fraction of the prgH1::TnphoA mutant IBO40 (lane 3). Ssp87 could not be detected in the cellular fractions nor in supernatants of various invasion and secretion mutants: CSO22 (PhoP^C), a mutant which constitutively represses PhoP regulated genes (Miller et al., J. Bacteriol. 172:2485-2490, 1990, hereby incorporated by reference) (lane 2), CS451

10 (\(\Delta hil :: Tn5-428 \)) carrying a 10 kb chromosomal deletion of the hil locus between 59 and 60 min. (lane 4), EE638 (lacZY11-6) (lane 5), and EE633 (lacZY4) (lane 6). The signal at 51 kDa in the supernatant fraction of wild type

- bacteria might represent a degradation product of Ssp87,

 while the faint band at 34 kDa is likely nonspecific
 hybridization since it is present in all bacteria
 analyzed. These results demonstrate that lack of Ssp87
 in supernatants of EE633 and EE638 is due to impaired
 expression while lack of Ssp87 in supernatants of IB040
- 20 (prgH1::TnphoA) is caused by impaired secretion of the protein. These results further show that expression of the gene encoding Ssp87 is affected by the hil deletion and that expression of Ssp87, either directly or indirectly, is repressed by PhoP.
- 25 Strain EE638, but not EE633, Is Markedly Deficient in Invasion

To determine the function of the 87, 42, and 36 kDa Ssp in invasion of epithelial cells, the ability of strain EE638 and EE633 to invade HEp-2 cells was analyzed. EE638 showed more than a 100-fold reduction in invasiveness when compared to wild type bacteria, while EE633 exhibited invasion levels comparable to wild type bacteria (Fig. 9). These results suggested that the 36 and/or the 42 kDa Ssp but not the 87 kDa Ssp are required for epithelial cell invasion. In addition, observation

of interactions between these mutants and PtK2 cells by time-lapse videomicroscopy indicated that the ability of EE638 to induce epithelial cell membrane ruffling is also markedly reduced, while EE633 induced localized membrane ruffles at a frequency similar to wild type S. typhimurium.

The Tn5lacZY Insertions in EE638 and EE633 Define a
Chromosomal Region Encoding Ssp S. typhimurium Homologues
of the Shigella ipaBCDA Operon

- To determine the gene(s) affected by the transposon-insertions in EE638 and EE633, part of a 11 kb EcoR1 subclone of pVV8-1 was sequenced. Two complete and two partial open reading frames (ORFs), positioned in the same transcriptional direction, were identified (Fig. 9).
- The deduced gene products of the complete ORFs exhibit similarity to Shigella secreted proteins IpaC and IpaD (31% identity, 47% similarity; 37% identity, 56% similarity) respectively, and therefore were designated sspC and sspD (see Fig. 13 and Fig. 14). The gene
- 20 products of the complete open reading frames were designated sspC and sspD. The amino acid sequence derived from the 5'-end of sspC was identical to the amino-terminal sequence of the 42 kDa Ssp (underlined in Fig. 13). The deduced gene product of the partial ORF
- 25 located immediately upstream from sspC shows 47% identity (67% similarity) to the carboxyterminal portion of S. flexneri secreted protein IpaB and was designated sspB (Fig. 12). The ORF starting immediately downstream of sspD was designated sspA. The amino acid sequence
- deduced from the 5' end of an ORF starting immediately downstream from sspD did not exhibit similarity to IpaA. However, DNA sequencing of internal parts of the gene predicted that the protein encoded by this gene, designated sspA, is similar to IpaA. Nevertheless, the
- 35 sequence of amino acids 2-13 (underlined in Fig. 15) was

identical to the amino-terminal sequence of the 87 kDa Ssp (see above). sspB, sspC, sspD, and sspA are separated by 27, 70, and 15 bp, respectively, and putative ribosome binding sites precede sspC, sspD, and 5 sspA.

The amino acid similarities of Ssp to Ipas do not extend over the entire lengths of the proteins. The similarities between SspC/IpaC and SspD/IpaD are highest in the carboxy-terminal regions, while the central parts of SspB and IpaB are conserved (see Fig. 12, 13, and 14). These similarities could reflect conservation in regions of the proteins required for secretion and/or invasion. Although both SspC and SspD appear to be secreted by the same mechanism, no obvious similarities or motifs common to these proteins were detected, thus implying conformational rather than sequential features in the secretion of proteins by type III secretion pathways.

The precise insertion of Tn5lacZY in EE638 was determined by cloning and sequencing of a PCR product comprising the 5' region of the transposon and upstream chromosomal sequences and was shown to be located 189 bp downstream from the ATG start codon of sspC. The order of the ssp genes and the Ssp profile of EE638 indicate that the transposon insertion in sspC is polar on expression of sspD and sspA and that these genes are likely to be organized in a singly transcribed unit.

Both sspC and sspD are Necessary for S. typhimurium Invasion of Epithelial Cells

A complementation analysis was carried out to

30 determine the minimal fragment necessary for
complementation of the epithelial cell invasion defect of
EE638 (sspC::lacZY11-6) as well as for reconstitution of
Ssp. All analyzed fragments were cloned downstream from
the lac promoter in the 6-8 copies/chromosome vector

35 pWSK29. As shown in Fig. 10, a 3.9 kb EcoRI-PvuII

fragment comprising sspC and sspD in pCH005 was sufficient to complement the invasion defect of EE638 to wild type levels. When analyzed for Ssp, EE638 [pCH005] showed a pattern of Ssp similar to the wild type strain 5 [pWSK29] except for the missing 87 kDa protein (SspA) (Fig. 16, lane 4). EE638 transformed with pCH002 carrying an 11 kb EcoR1 fragment was partially complemented for invasion as well as for all 3 missing Ssp (Fig. 10 and Fig. 16, lane 6). In contrast, EE638 10 transformed with plasmids that contained either sspC or sspD alone (pCH004 and pCH006, respectively) were not complemented for invasion but showed reconstitution of the 42 kDa Ssp (SspC) or the 36 kDa Ssp (SspD), respectively (Fig. 10 and Fig. 16, lanes 3 and 5). 15 addition, the abundancy of a 63 kDa Ssp, which was found to be more abundant in supernatants of EE638, was reduced in supernatants of strains EE638 [pCH005], EE638 [pCH006], and EE638 [pCH002] and of SL1344 [pCH002]. These results demonstrate that both SspC and SspD are 20 necessary for invasion of epithelial cells and indicate that SspC encodes the 42 kDa Ssp while the 36 kDa Ssp is likely to be encoded by SspD. In addition, complementation of the invasion defect of EE638 with pCH005 indicates that invasiveness is not influenced by 25 the observed changes in the abundancy of the 63 kDa Ssp. A Precipitate Found in S. typhimurium Culture Supernatants Contains Highly Abundant SspC and Other **Proteins**

Supernatants from S. typhimurium wild type

30 cultures contained a precipitate that, when solubilized in reducing SDS sample buffer, separates into at least four highly abundant protein bands of 63, 59, 42 and 22 kDa on SDS-PAGE (see Fig. 17, lane 1). Protein precipitates were also found in culture supernatants of 35 EE638 and EE633, but not in supernatants of S.

typhimurium mutants with global defects in protein secretion [CS022 (PhoPC), IB040 (prgH::TnphoA), CS451 (Ahil::Tn5-428) and VB122 (hilA::kan-112). S. typhimurium 14028s, the wild type parent of CS022 and 5 IB040, showed the same protein pattern of precipitated material as SL1344]. The precipitate from EE633 cultures showed a similar composition to that of wild type precipitate by SDS-PAGE analysis. In contrast, a major protein band of 42 kDa was absent from the precipitate 10 isolated from cultures of EE638 (Fig. 17, lane 2). Amino-terminal sequencing of this 42 kDa Ssp identified it as encoded by SspC. The identity of the amino-terminal protein sequence (MLISNVGINPAAYLN; SEQ ID NO: 28) with the amino acid sequence derived from the 15 5'-region of SspC (Fig. 13) shows that no amino-terminal processing of SspC occurs prior to its release into the supernatant.

SDS-PAGE analyses of precipitated material from culture supernatants of EE638 [pCH004 (SspC)] and EE638 20 [pCH005 (SspCD)] showed a pattern similar to wild type [pWSK29] material (Fig., 17, lane 3 and 4), confirming that the respective plasmids complemented the mutant for secretion of SspC. Protein patterns of soluble Ssp and precipitates isolated from untransformed cultures of 25 SL1344 or EE638 were identical to those shown in Fig. 16, 17, lane 1 and 2, respectively. Precipitate of EE638 [pCH006 (SspD)] was found to be similar to precipitate from EE638 [pWSK29] except for reduced abundancy of a 63 kDa protein band (Fig. 17, lane 5). The precipitate from 30 EE638 [pCH002 (SspCDA)] contained an additional major protein band of approximately 51 kDa, which was also present in precipitate from SL1344 [pCH002] (Fig. 17, lanes 6, 7). Comparison of precipitated proteins to soluble Ssp on SDS-PAGE (Fig. 17, lanes 8, 9) showed that 35 SspC in the precipitate has the same electrophoretic

mobility as the 42 kDa soluble Ssp. These data suggest that the 42 kDa soluble Ssp is identical to precipitated SspC.

SspC and SspA are secreted proteins of 42 and 87 kDa, as demonstrated by amino-terminal sequencing and by complementation analyses. It is further likely that the 36 kDa protein encoded by SspD is secreted, since lack of a 36 kDa Ssp in supernatants of EE638 (lacZY11-6) was complemented by transformation of this mutant with plasmids containing SspD. The 63 kDa Ssp is the protein likely to be encoded by SspB.

SspA, SspB, SspC, and SspD appear to be targets of the *inv-spa-prgHIJK* encoded secretion apparatus, since these Ssp are missing in supernatants of mutants

- 15 affecting expression or regulation of inv-spa and prgHIJK (Fig. 8). Typical for proteins secreted by type III secretion pathways, no amino-terminal processing of SspA and SspC was observed. The dependency of Ssp secretion on prgHIJK was further proven by demonstrating that SspA
- is abundantly secreted by wild type cells, while it is completely retained in the cellular fraction of the prgH1::TnphoA mutant IB040 (Fig. 11). The 38 kDa Ssp of the five major Ssp dependent on the inv-spa-prgHIJK secretion apparatus may be the product of the invJ invasion locus.
- The immunoblot analysis of SspA secretion suggests that expression of the gene encoding SspA is negatively controlled by the virulence two component regulatory system PhoP/PhoQ. PhoP/Q has a global effect on protein secretion which is partially due to negative
- 30 transcriptional regulation of prgHIJK (see Example 1).

The SspBCDA genes are located between the large inv-spa gene cluster and prgHIJK at 59 minutes on the S. typhimurium chromosome. Fig. 18 shows the relative positions of the invasion genes in S. typhimurium in comparison to their S. flexneri homologues, which are

clustered in a 31 kb region of a large virulence plasmid. The invasion genes cluster in three groups (inv-spa/mxi-spa, Ssp/ipa, and prgIJK/mxiHIJ) which exhibit conserved gene structure and organization, 5 suggesting that these genes were acquired by horizontal gene transfer. Acquisition by horizontal gene transfer is further supported by the fact that these S. typhimurium invasion genes are within a 40 kb "virulence island" which, despite the otherwise high overall genetic 10 similarity between S. typhimurium and E. coli K-12, is unique to S. typhimurium. However, the three invasion gene clusters from S. flexneri and S. typhimurium are in different relative positions to each other and are interspersed between non-homologous genes, thus implying 15 multi-recombinational events in the evolution of these genetic regions.

In addition to soluble Ssp the supernatants of S.

typhimurium cultures contained a flocculent precipitate
consisting of SspC and three other major protein species

of 63 (Ssp 63), 59 (Ssp 59), and 22 (Ssp 22) kDa. The
combination and abundancy of Ssp in the precipitate from
S. typhimurium cultures is strikingly different from that
in the soluble fraction (see Fig. 17). Though Ssp,
including SspC, are found in both the precipitate and the

soluble fraction, SspD, even when overproduced, was not
detected in the precipitate. This emphasizes the
difference in composition of precipitate and soluble
fraction and supports the possibility of specific
protein-protein interactions between the four Ssp leading
to precipitate formation.

OTHER EMBODIMENTS

Using reagents derived from partial cDNA clones of an Ssp, e.g., SspA, the isolation of a full-length cDNA encoding the Ssp is well within the skill of those skilled in the art of molecular biology. For example, a radiolabelled probe made from a known partial cDNA sequence can be used to identify and isolate from a library of recombinant plasmids cDNAs that contain regions with identical to the previously isolated cDNAs. The screening of cDNA libraries with radiolabelled cDNA probes is routine in the art of molecular biology (see Sambrook et al., 1989, Molecular Cloning: a Laboratory Manual, second edition., Cold Spring Harbor Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y). The cDNA can be isolated and subcloned into a plasmid vector, and the plasmid DNA purified by standard techniques. The cDNA insert is sequenced using the dideoxy chain termination method well known in the art (Sambrook et al, supra).

15 Oligonucleotide primers corresponding to bordering vector regions as well as primers prepared from previously isolated cDNA clones can be employed to progressively determine the sequence of the entire gene.

Similar methods can be used to isolate Ssp which are related to SspA, SspB, SspC, or SspD. To isolate related Ssp, a probe having a sequence derived from (or identical to) all or a portion of SspA, SspB, SspC, or SspD can be used to screen a library of Salmonella DNA (or cDNA). DNA encoding a related Ssp will generally hybridize at greater stringincy than DNA encoding other proteins. This approach can be used to identify Salmonella typhimurium Ssp as well as Ssp of other Salmonella.

Generation of Monoclonal Antibodies:

Monoclonal antibodies can be generated to purified native or recombinant gene products, e.g., Ssp, by standard procedures, e.g., those described in Coligan et al., eds., Current Protocols in Immunology, 1992, Greene Publishing Associates and Wiley-Interscience). To generate monoclonal antibodies, a mouse is immunized with

the recombinant protein, and antibody-secreting B cells isolated and immortalized with a non-secretory myeloma cell fusion partner. Hybridomas are then screened for production of specific antibodies and cloned to obtain a homogenous cell population which produces a monoclonal antibody. For example, hybridomas secreting the desired antibodies can be screened by ELISA. Specificities of the monoclonal antibodies can be determined by the use of different protein or peptide antigens in the ELISA.

10 Useful quantities of antibodies can be produced by either the generation of ascites fluid in mice or by large scale in vitro culture of the cloned antibody-producing hybridoma cell line. Antibodies can be purified by various chromatographic procedures known in the art, such 15 as affinity chromatography on either immobilized Protein A or Protein G.

The invention also includes DNA encoding other Ssp (e.g., Ssp 54, Ssp 42, and Ssp 22) found in cell supernatants. Those skilled in the art can readily clone the corresponding genes based on the amino terminal sequence or the corresponding protein. The amino terminal sequence of Ssp54 is MNNLTLSXFXKVG (SEQ ID NO: 29). The amino terminal sequence of Ssp42 is MLISNVGINPAAYLN (SEQ ID NO: 30). The amino terminal sequence of Ssp 22 is TKITLSPQNFFI (SEQ ID NO: 31).

CLAIMS

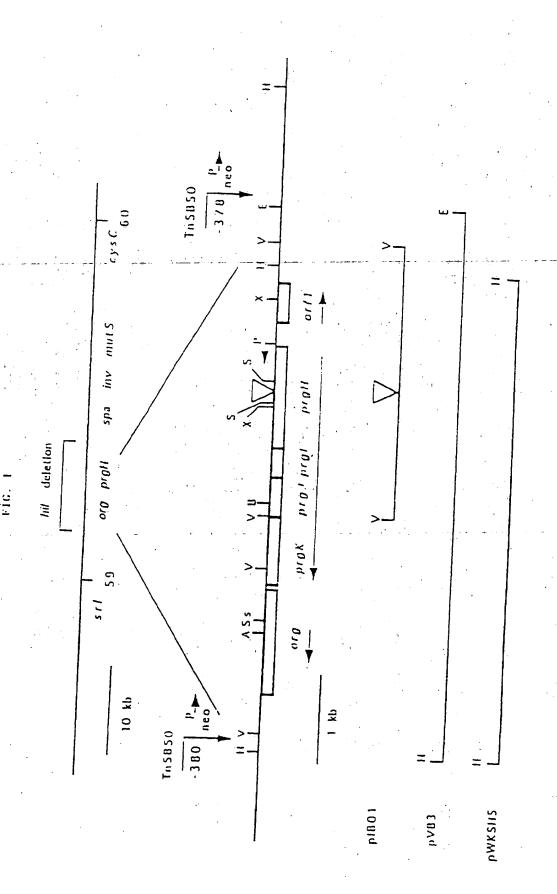
- 1. Substantially pure DNA encoding a Salmonella secreted protein (Ssp).
- 2. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises 5 the SspB gene.
 - 3. The DNA of claim 2, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.
- 4. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises 10 the SspC gene.
 - 5. The DNA of claim 4, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.
- 6. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises 15 the SspD gene.
 - 7. The DNA of claim 6, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.
- 8. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises 20 the SspA gene.
 - 9. The DNA of claim 8, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.
- 10. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA
 25 comprises the SspB gene, the SspC gene, the SspD gene and the SspA gene.

- 11. The DNA of claim 10, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15.
- 12. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA comprises the SspH gene.
- 13. The DNA of claim 12, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.
- 14. The DNA of claim 1, wherein said DNA 10 comprises the stpA gene.
 - 15. The DNA of claim 14, wherein said DNA comprises the DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10 or degenerate variants thereof encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.
- 15 16. A cell which contains the DNA of claim 1.
 - 17. A method of inducing uptake of a bacterial cell by an epithelial cell in a mammal, comprising increasing expression of the DNA of claim 4 or 6 in said cell and administering said cell to said mammal.
- 20 18. The method of claim 17, wherein said bacterial cell is a Salmonella cell.
- 19. A method of inducing uptake of a bacterial cell by a macrophage in a mammal, comprising decreasing expression of the DNA of claim 4 or 6 and administering 25 said cell to said mammal.
 - 20. A substantially pure SspC polypeptide.

- 21. The polypeptide of claim 20, comprising an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 6.
- 22. An active fragment of the polypeptide of 5 claim 21.
 - 23. A substantially pure SspD polypeptide.
 - 24. The polypeptide of claim 23, comprising an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.
- 10 25. An active fragment of the polypeptide of claim 24.
 - 26. A substantially pure SspH polypeptide.
- 27. The polypeptide of claim 26, comprising an amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino 15 acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14.
 - 28. An active fragment of the polypeptide of claim 27.
 - 29. A substantially pure TagB polypeptide.
- 30. The polypeptide of claim 29, comprising an 20 amino acid sequence substantially identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11.
 - 31. An active fragment of the polypeptide of claim 40.
 - 32. An antibody which binds to a Ssp.

- 33. A method of detecting a Salmonella infection in a mammal comprising contacting a biological sample derived from said mammal with the antibody of claim 32 and detecting the binding of said antibody to a Ssp in said sample, wherein said binding indicates that said mammal is infected with Salmonella.
- 34. A method of detecting the presence of Salmonella in a biological sample comprising contacting said sample with a Ssp-encoding DNA under high stringency conditions and detecting the hybridization of said DNA to nucleic acid in said sample, wherein hybridization indicates the presence of Salmonella in said biological sample.
- 35. A method of targeting an antigen to an epithelial cell in a mammal, comprising linking said antigen to an Ssp or active fragment thereof to produce a Ssp chimeric antigen and administering said chimeric antigen to said mammal.
- 36. The method of claim 35, wherein said Ssp is 20 SspC or SspD.
- 37. A method of inducing a cytotoxic T cell immune response in a mammal, comprising linking said antigen to an Ssp or active fragment thereof to produce a Ssp chimeric antigen and contacting an antigen-presenting cell with said chimeric antigen.
 - 38. A vaccine comprising a bacterial cell the virulence of which is attenuated by decreased secretion of a Ssp.

- 39. The vaccine of claim 38, wherein said bacterial cell is a Salmonella typhimurium cell.
- 40. The vaccine of claim 39, wherein said bacterial cell is a Salmonella enteriditis cell.
- 5 41. The vaccine of claim 38, wherein said bacterial cell is a Salmonella typhi cell.
 - 42. A live Salmonella cell in which a gene encoding a heterologous antigen is inserted into a Sspencoding gene.
- 10 43. A method of vaccinating an animal against a Salmonella infection comprising administering the vaccine of claim 38.
 - 44. A substantially pure StpA polypeptide.
- 45. A method of dephosphorylating a protein,
 15 comprising contacting said protein with the polypeptide
 of claim 44 or an active fragment thereof.



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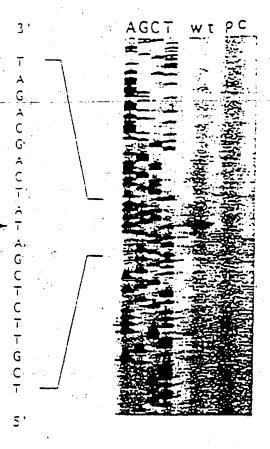
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FIG. 3



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FIC. 4A :
             ...MATPWSGY......LDDVSÄKFOTGVONLQŤQVTEALOKLAAKPSOP
         L MSVTVPNDDWT.....LSSLSETFDDGTQTLQGELTLALDKLAKNPSNP
 MX1E
          1 ... MSNFSGFTKGNDIADLDÁVAQTLKKPADDANKAVNDSIAALKDTPDNP
 Ysc:
           ALLAAYÇSKLEEYMLYFMAQSMTYKVFKDIDAALIQNFE 80 (SEQ ID NO: QLLAEYQSKLEEYTLYFMAQSMTYKVIKDUDADLIQNFE 80 (SEQ ID NO:
 MR1H 45
            ALLADIQHSINKWSVIYNISSTIVRSMKDLMQGILQKFP 37 (SEQ ID NO:
FIC. 4B
            MSIATIVEENAV: IGQAVNIRSMETDIVSIDORLLQAFSGSAIATAVDKQT 50
          PTGJ 51 ITWRIEDPNLYTDPKELAISQEMISDYNLKYSNYSTLTRKGVGAVETLLRS 101(SEQ ID NO: MXLI 48 IMEMUSNPESL: NPESLAKIQTTLSNYSIGVSLAGTLARKTVSAVETLLKS 97(SEQ ID NO:
 FIG. 4C
           .MIRRYLYTFLLYMTEAGCKDK.DLLKGLDQEQAMEVIAVLQMHNIEANKI
 PrçK
                                                                             49
            MIRYKGFILFLLLMLIGGEGREELISNLSQRQANEIISVLERHNITABUT
MxiJ
                                                                             50
           MEVETSISTUILIFITGON . VDLYTGISQKEGNEMLALLRQEGISADKE / 49
Prgk 50 DSGKLGYSITVAEPDFTAAVYWIKTYQLPPRPRVEIAQMFPADSLVSSPR
                                                                            99
MXAJ 51 DGGKQGISVQVEKGTFASAVDLMRMYDLPNPERVDISQMFPTDSLVSSPR
                                                                          100
YSCJ 50 POKOGKEKLLVZESOVAQAIDILKRKGYPHESFSTLQDVFPKOGLISSPI
PrgK 100
MkiJ 101
YscJ 100
            AEKARLYSAIEQRLEQSLQTYEGVLSARVHISYDIDAGENGRPPKPVHLS
                                                                           149
            AEKARLYSAIEQRLEQSLVSIGGVISAKEHVSYDLE..EXNISSKPMMIS
                                                                           146
            EELARLNYAKAQEISRTLSEIDGVLVARVHVVLPEEQNNKGKKGVAASAS
                                                                           149
            ALAVVERGSPLAHQISDIKRFLKNSFADVDYDNISVVL....SERSDAGL
VIAIVDSPKESELLVSNIKRFLKNTFSDVKYENISVIL....TPKEIYVY
VFIKHAADIQFDTYIPQIKQLVNNSIEGLAYDRISVILVPSVDVRQSSHL
Prox 150
                                                                           195
MX12 149
                                                                           195
YscJ 150
                                                                           :30
PEGK 196 Q. APGIPVKRNSFATSWIVLIILLSVMSAGFGVWYYKNHYARNKKGITA
MX11 196 THYQPYKEYKSEFLTNEYIYLFLGMAYLYYTLLYWAFKTGWFKRNKT 242(SEQ ID NO: )
YSCJ 200 F. RNTSILSIQYSEESKGRLIGLISLLILLDPYTNLAQYFWLQRKK 244(SEQ ID NO: )
Mx13 196
PrgX 243
           DOKAKSSNE | 252 (SEQ ID NO:
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FIG. 5

kDa 200 -

97 -

68 -

43 -

29.

18 -

FIG. 6

1				
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kDa 200 -	" oc o " "	7, 6 _c 5, .	try m be b. Et.	kDa - 200
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68 -				- 68
; 43 -				- 43
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18 - ກົ 14 - ຊື່				- 18
	·- <u>.</u>	₩		- 14

FIG. 7

kDa ½ 80

200 -

97 -

66 -

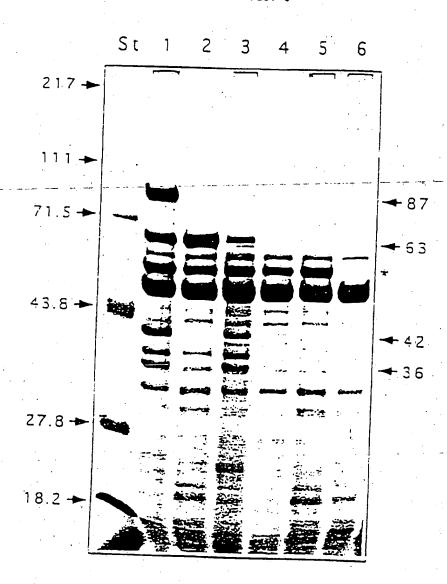
43 -

29 -

18 -

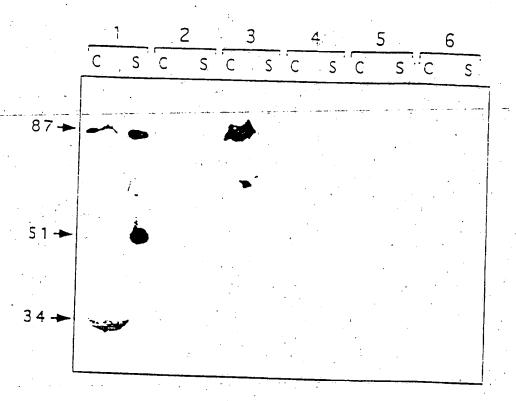
14 -

FIG. 8



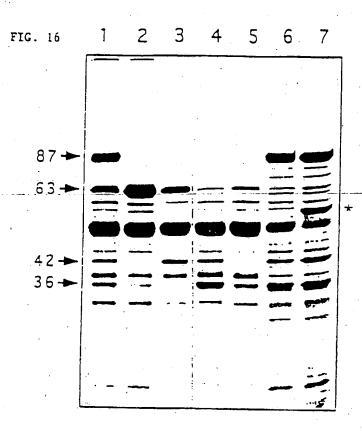
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[96 of inoculum]	17.5 ± 2.6	23.2 1 3.5	0.1 ± 0.05	invasion 12 of inoculum 7.1 4.2.3	0.2 1 0.09	16.5 ± 2.7	0.1 ± 0.05
ligin	 						
hilA	-=	-=	==		2		
ssput sspc sspit sspA	(a) II (b) (l	[(1) (1) B (P) [ac2) 11 6	(a) II (b)	-S		(r) (r)	(f) (l)
spar.	[(H)]		[(1:1)]	$\begin{array}{ccc} & & & & \\ & & & \\ 021 & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ \end{array}$	14]	: 	$\int_{(I_1)}^{I_2} \left(\frac{I_{(I_2)}}{I_{(I_1)}} \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{I_{(I_1)}}{I_{(I_2)}} \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{I_{(I_1)}}{I_{(I_2)}} \right)^{-1} \left(\frac{I_{(I_2)}}{I_{(I_2)}} \right)^{-1$
FIG. 9	51.134		EE 638	FIG. 10 EE638 [PC11002]	EE638. [pCH004] EE638	[pCH005]	[bCH006]

FIG. 11



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FIG. 12
                                              RKAEETHRIHGCICKVLCALLTIVSVVAAVFTGGASLALAAVGLAVHVADEIVKAATGVSFIQDALNPIHEHVLKPLHELIGEALTKALEGLGVGRKRGR
     5308
                                                CHIEF OF THE THEORET CONTINUES OF THE PARTY 
       IDGB 298 RKAEELNRYMGCVGKILCALLTIVSVVAAAFSGCASLALAAVGLALMVTDAIVGAATGNSFHEQALNPINKAVIEPLIKLLSDAFTKHLEGLGVDSKKAK
                                              MPAALLYRLSPLCHCDAVIVWAVVCKCAAAKLCHALSKHHCETIKKLYPMVLKOLAOHCSKLFTQCHQRITSCLCHVGSKHCLOTHALSKELVGHTLHK
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     1908 393 MEGSTEGATAGALVEVAAVVEVATYGKOAAAKLAENIGKITCKTETDETPKFEKNESSQEDDETTNAVARENKELGAAGDEV . .....ISKOTISTHENO
                                              VALIGHEVTNITAAQSAGGVAEGVEIKNASEALADEHLÄREAHDOIQQMLKQSVEIEGENOKVTAELOKAMSSAVQQNADASREILRQSRA (SEQ ID NC
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     1906 492 AVELCESVINSATOACGSVASAVFONSASTINLADETESKYOVEDESKYESEATEKFOOLOEVTADELASHSINSOAIRTDVAKATECOTTA 580 (SEO ID N
       FIG. 13
                                                                                         HLISWOTNPAAYLHNHSVENSSQTASOSYSAKDILHSIJISSSKYSOLGVESYTERACAGYLTOTROTTTSFLKAŠIONTQHNODLHALA
   SSOC
                                    I MLOKOFCHKLUSDTHKENMHEIGH. ....TXPTQTEYTDISTKQTQSSSETQKSCHYCQIAAHEPLHVCKHPVLTTTLHDDQLLKLSEQVOHDSETTARLT
   : >aC
   SSDC 92 MM/TTKANEVVQTQLREQQAEVCKFFDISCHSSSAVALLAAANTLHLTLNOADSKLSCKLSLVSFDAAKTTASSHHRECHCTIVCSIPEPL OLGITCVC
   IBGC 97 DKKMKDLSEMSHTLTPENT.....LDISSLSSNAVSLIISVAVLLSALRTAETKLGSQLSLIAFDATKSAAENIVRQGLAALSSSITGAVTQVGITGIG
   SSOC 191 AKLEYKGLÖNERCPIKHNAGKIDKLTTESHSIKNVINGONSIKLCAEGVOSIKSINHKKTGTDATKNINDATIKSNAGTSATESICIKDSNKOISPEHOA
                                                                                                 1 1 1
                                                                                                                                                  1 1 1 1 11 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         11 1
   IPPC 191 AKKTHSGISEQKGALŘKNLATAOSLEKELAGSKLGLNKOIDTNITSPQTNS.....STKFLGKNKLÁPD...
  SSPC 291 ILSKRLESVESDIRLEONTHOMTRIDARKHOMTCOLIHKNSVTVGGIACASGOYAATOERSEOQISQVMNRVASTASDEARESSRKSTSLIQEHLKTHES
                                                                                                                                                                                                               1 (1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            1111
  IDOC 265 SESSPOISEQDKIDTORRTYEENTESAQKONIGRATHETSAVAGNISTSGGRYASALEEEEQEISQASSKOAEEASQVSKEASQATHQLIQKEENIIDS
  SSDC 391 INQSKASALARIACHIRA +09 (SEQ ID NO:
                                           TURBER ÖRGG
  IPOC 365 INQSKNSAASQIACNIRA 332 (SEQ ID NO:
     FIG. 14
  SSDD I MUNIONYSA SPHPGIVA ERPQTPSA SEHVETA VVPSTTEHROTO II SUSQAATKIHOA QQTUQINATI SEENNO ER SMCQ. QUTSS.....
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                                 L MNITTUTNSISTSSFSPNNTNCSSTETVNSDIKTTTSSHPVSSLTHUNDTUNNIRTTNOALKKE...LSCKTLTKTSLEEIALHSSOISHDVNKSAOLLD
  SSDD 38 ALAKSOVŠLSAEQNENLRSAFSAPTSAĻFSASPMAQPRTTISDAEIHOMVSQNISAICOSYLOVFMKMVVAVYTDFYQAFSDILSKMGGMLLP.GKDGNT
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         The Charles of the Control of the Co
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  11 :
 1000 98 ILSRNEYPINKOARELLH...SAPKEAELDGOCM.....ISHRELMAKIANSINDINEOYLKYY.EHAVSSYTCHYOOFSAVLSSLACMISPGGNOCNS
 SSDD-137 VKLÖVTSLKNOLNSLVNKYNOINSNTFYFOAVSKRTRRRECHLSELNLPNSCLKSYCSGOOVTVOLTPLOKYVOOTOGLGAPCKOSKLEHONAKYOANG
                                          All things the
 TOOD IZZ VKLOVNSLKKALEELKEKYKOKP....LYPANNTVSOEGANKHLTELGGTIGKVSOKNGGOOVSINHTPIONHLKSLONLGGNG....EVVLONAKYGAHN
SSOO 237 SGFKAOEEHMKTTLOTLTCKYSNANSLYÖNLVKVLSSTISTSLEPPKPSCKO 338 (SEQ ID NO:
                                              ti ( ) titl likk kinene sienkaning
1000 291 AGFSAEDETHKNNLOTLVOKYSNANSIFONLVKVLSSTISSCTDTDKLFLHF 332 (SEQ ID NO:
   FIG. 15
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: MYTSVRTQPOV [MPGSOTE EXTRPRIC 19 7 117]



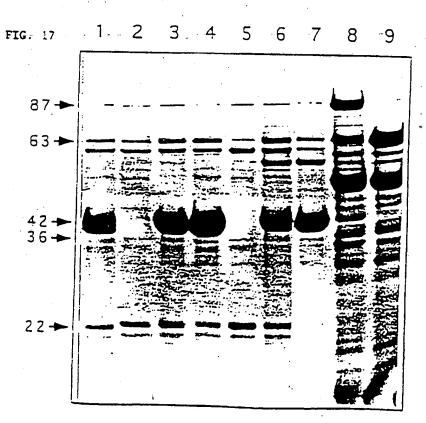


FIG. 1

S. typhimurium

hill *Hexneri*

CCCAAACCCGAGGAAACGAACCCATTATGGGATGTATCGGGAAAGTCCTC CGCGCTGCTAACCATTGTCAGCGTTGTCTGCCGCTGTTTTTACCGGTGGGGCG <u>ACTCTGGCGCTGGCTGCGGTGGGACTTGCGGTLAATGGTGGCCGATGAAATTGT</u> GAAGGCGCGACGGGAGTGTCGTTTATTCAGCAGGCGCTAAACCCGATTATG GAGCATGTGCTGAAGCCGTTAATGGAGCTGATTGGCAAGGCGATTACCAAA GCGCTGGAAGGATTAGGCGTCGATAAGAAAACGGCAGAGATGGCCGGCAGC <u>ATTGTTGGTGCGATTGTCGCCGCTATTGCCATGGTGGCGGTCATTGTGGTGGTC</u> CKCAGTTGTCGGGAAAGGCGCGGCGCGCGAAACTGGGTAACGCGCGCTGAGCAAA... ATGATGGGCGAAACGATTAAGAAGTTGGTGCCTAACGTGCTGAAACA(fTT GGCGCAAAACGGCAGCAAACTCJJJACCCAGGGGATGCAACGTATTACTAG CGGTCTGGGTAATGTGGGTAGCAAGATGGCCTGCAAACGAATGCCTTAAG TAAAGAGCTGGTAGGTAATACCCTTAAATAAGTGGCGTTGGGCATGGAAG AAAAATGCCAGGGGGGGTTGCTGATTTTATGCCCGCCCGTTTTGCCATGG <u>ATCAGATTCAGCAGTGGCTTAAACAATCCGTAGAAATATTTGGTGAAAAC</u> <u>CACIAAGGTAACGGCGGAACTGCAAAAAGCCATGTCTTCTCGCGGTACAGCAA</u> <u>AATGCGGATGCTTCGCGTTFTATTCTGCGCCAGAGT</u>CGCGCATAA¹

FIG. 19 (SEQ ID NO:1)

ATGTTAATTAGTAATGTGGGAATAAAT CCCGCCGCTTATTTAAATAATCATTCTGTTGAGAATAGIIICACAGACAGCT TCGCAATCCGTTAGCGCTAAAGATATTCTGAATAGTATTGGTATTAGCAGC AGINA AGTCAGTGACCI GOCGTTGAGTCCTACACTGAGCCCCCCCTGCGCCAGG <u>GUTATTAACGCAAACCCCCGGAACGATCACGTCCTTTTT</u>AAAAGCCAGTAT 1CAMAATACCGACATGAATCAGGATTTGAATGCTC1GGCAAATAATGTCA <u>CGACTAAAGCGAATGAGGTTGTGCAAACCCAGTTACGCGAGCAGCAGCAG</u> <u>AACTCGGAAAGTTTTTTGATATTAGCGGAATGTCTTCCAGTGCCGTTGCGCT</u> <u>GTTGGCTGCCGGAATACGTTAATCCTGACGTTGAACCAAGCCAGGCTGATAGCAA</u> <u>ΛCTGTCTGGTAAGTTGTCΛΊΤΑGTCAGTTTTGATGCΛGCΓΛΑΑΑCGACGGC</u> <u>AACKTCCATGATGCCCGAAGGGATGAATGCCFFGCCGCTAGTATTTCCCAG</u> <u>ACCOCCTTCAGTTGGGGATCACTGGCGTGGGCGCCAAACTGGAATATAAGG</u> GCCTGCAGAATGAAAGAGGCGCGCTTAAACATAATGCCGCGAAGATCGAT <u>AAACTGACCACTGAAAGCCACAGTATTAAAAACGGTGCTGAACGGGCAGAA</u> TAGCGTCAAACTCGGTGCTGAAGGCGTCGATTCTCTGAAATCGTTAAATAT <u>GAAGAAAACCCGUTACCGATGCGACGAAAAATCTTAATGATGCGACGCTTA</u> <u>AATCTAATGCCGGAACCAGCGCCACCGAAAGTCTGGGTATTAAAGACAGT</u> <u>AATAAACAAATCI'CCCCTGAACATCAGGCI'ATTCTGTCGAAACGTCTI'GAG</u> <u>ICTGICGAATCCGATATTCGTCTTGAGCAGAATACCATGGATATG</u>ACCCGA <u>ATCGATGCCCCCAAGATGCAGATGACCCCGGTCTGATT</u>ATGAAGAACTCG <u>GTCACGGTCYCGTATTGCACGGGCUICCCCCAGTACGCCCCIIACTCAGGA</u> ACGTTCCGAGCAGCAAATTAGCCACKII'UAATAACCGGGTTTGCCAGCACCCCCA <u>TCCGACGAAGCCCGTGAAAGTTCACGTAAATCGACCAGCCTGATTCAGGAA</u> <u>ATGCIGAAAACAATGGAGAGCATTAACCAGTCGAA</u>AGCATCCGCACTCGCT CKTIATCCCAGGCAATATTCCCCCCTTAA

ATGCTT

AATATTCAAAATTATTCCGCUTCTCCTCATCCGGGGATCGTTGCCGAACGGCC GCAGACIVIXTOGGGAGCGAGCACCITOTAGCACTGCCGTGCTACCGTCTACCAC AGAACATCGCGGTACAGATATCATTTCATTATCGCAGGCGGCTACTAAAAT <u>AATGACGAGCCCACGCTGGCGCGCCCAGCAGTTGACCAGCAGCCTGAATGCCCT</u> GGCGAAGTCCGGCGTGTCATTATCCGCAGAAAAATGAGAACCTGCGGAG <u>CGCGTTTTCTGCCGCCGACGTCGGCCTTATTTAGCGCTTCGCCTATCGCCGCAGCCG</u> <u>AGAACAACCATTTCTGATGCTGAGATTTGGGATATGGTTTCCCCAAAATAT</u> ATCGGCGATAGGTGACAGCTATCTGGGGCGTTTATGAAAACGTTGTCGCAGTC <u>TATACCGATTTTTATCAGGCCTTCAGTGATATTCTTTCCAAAATGGGAGGCT</u> GGTTA'L'I'ACCAGGTAAGGACGGTAATACCGTTAAGCTAGATGTTACCTCAC TCAAAAATGATTTAAACAGTTTAGTCAATAAATAATCAAATAAACA GTANTACCGTTTTATTTCCAGCGCAGTCAGGCAGCGCCGTTAAAGTAGCCAC IGAAGCGGAAGCGAGACAGTGGCTCAGTGAATTTACCGAATAGCTG CCTGAAATCTTATGGGATCCGGTTATGTCGTCACCGTTGATCTGACGCCATTAC AAAAAATGGTTCAGGATATTGATGGTTTAGGCGCCCCGGGAAAAGACTCA <u>AAACTCGAAATGGATAACGCCAAATATCAAGCCTGGCAGTCGGGTTTTAA</u> AGCCCAGGAAGAAATATGAAAACCACATTACAGACGCTGACGCAAAAA TATAGCAATGCCAATTCATTGTACGACAACCTGGTAAAAGTGCTGAGCAGT ACCIATAAGTAGCAGCCTCKIAAACCGCCAAAACCTTCCTGCAAGGATAA

FIG. 21 (SEQ ID NO:3)

(SEQ ID NO:4)

RKAEETNRIMGCIGKVLGALLTIVSVVAAVFTGGASLALAAVGLAVMVA
DEIVKAATGVSFIQQALNPIMEHVLKPLMELIGKAITKALEGLGVDRKRQR
WPAALLVRLSPLCHGDAVIVVVAVVGKGAAAKI.GNALSKMMGETIKKLV
PNVLKQLAQNGSKLFTQGMQRITSGLGNVGSKMGLQTNALSKELVGNTLNK
VALGMEVTNTAAQSAGGVAEGVFIKNASEALADFMLARFAMDQIQQWLK
QSVEIFGENQKVTAELQKAMSSAVQQNADASRFILRQSRAZ

(SEQ ID NO:5)

MLISNVGINPAAYI.NNHSVENSSQTASQSVSAKDII.NSIGISSSKVSDLGI.SP
TLSAPAPGVI.TQTPGTITSFLKASIQNTDMNQDI.NALANNVTTKANEVVQT
QLREQQAEVGKFFDISGMSSSAVALLAAANTLMLTLNQADSKLSGKLSLVSF
DAAKTTASSMMREGMNALSGSISQSALQI.GITGVGAKLEYKGLQNERGALK
HNAAKIDKI.TTESHSIKNVLNGQNSVKLGAEGVDSLKSLNMKKTGTDATKNL
NDATLKSNAGTSATESLGIKDSNKQISPEHQAILSKRI.ESVESDIRLEQNTMD
MTRIDARKMQMTGDLIMKNSVTVGGIAGASGQYAATQERSEQQISQVNNRV
-ASTASDEARESSRKSTSLIQEMLKTMESINQSKASAL AAIAGNIRAZ

(SEQ ID NO:6)

MLNIQNYSASPHPGIVAERPQTPSASEHVETAVVPSTTEIIRGTDIISLSQAA
TKIHQAQQTLQSTPPISEENNDERTLARQQLTSSI.NAI.AKSGVSLSAEQNENI.
RSAFSAPTSALFSASPMAQPRTTISDAEIWDMVSQNISAIGDSYLGVYENVV
AVYTDFYQAFSDILSKMGGWLLPGKDGNTVKLDVTSLKNDLNSLVNKYNQI
NSNTVLFPAQSGSGVKVATEAEARQWLSELNLPNSCLKSYGSGYVVTVDLT
PI QKMVQDIDGLGAPGKDSKI.LMDNAKYQAWQSGFKAQEENMKTTLQTLTQ
KYSNANSLYDNLVKVLSSTISSSI.ETAKSFLQGZ

(SEQ ID NO:7)

MVTSVRTQPPVIMPGMQTEIKTQATNLAANLSAVRESATATLSGEIKGPQL EDFPALIKQASLD

(SEQ ID NO:8)

ATGCATTATTTTTTATCATCGTAATCTGGTTGCTTAGCATAATA
CGGCATGGGCTGATTCTGGCTTCAGGCTGAAAAAATGTTCAATATTGAATC
CGAACTACTTTACGCTATCGCCCAGCAGGAATCCGCGGATGAAACCCTTGCCCCCCC
ATTGGTCATAACCGAGATGGTTCAACCGATCTTGGCCTGATGCAAATTAAC
AGCTTCCATATGAAAAGGCTGAAAAAAATGGGGGATTAGTGAAAAAACAGT
TGTTACAGGACCCCTGCATTTCTGTCATTGTGGGCGACCTCCATTTTATCAGA
TATGATGAAAATCTACGGTTATAGCTGGGAGGCCGTTGGCCGCTTATAATGC
CGGGACGTCGCCGAAACGATATAAAAGGAATGTCAGCAAAAAAA
TTTGGGAGAATTACAGAAAATTAAAAGGAATGTCAGCAGAAGAAAAAA
ACAAAAGACTTTCTATCGCGGCAAACAATAA

(SEQ ID NO:9)

MHYFFIIVIWLLSINTAWADSGFRLKKCSILNPNYFTLSPSRNRRZNEAPLVI TEMVQPILAZCKLTASIZKGZKKWGLVKNSCYRTPAFLSLWATSILSDMMKI YGYSWEAVGAYNAGTSPKRSDIRKRYAKKIWENYRKLKGMSAEEKNKRLSIA ANK

(SEQ ID-NO:11)

WPGTICGQQHSINQQTQVKLSDGMPVPVIRLTFDGKPVALAGIRTQKIRPDR
LEAHMKMLLEKECSCLVVLTSERSDAGKTITTYFRGSYTFGLVHTNSQKVSSA
SQGEAIDQYNMQLSCGEKRYTIPVLHVKNWPDHQPLPSTDQLEYLADRVKNS
NQNGAPGRSSSDKIILPMIIICLGGVGRTGTMAAALVLKDNPHSNLEQVRADF
RIHGTIECWKTPAQFVQLKAMQAQLLMTTAS

(SEQ ID NO:12)

ATGCGTGATTGCCTGAATAACGGCAATCCAGTGCTTAACGTG <u> GGAGCGTCAGGTCTTACCACCTTACCAGACCGTTTACCACCGCATA</u>T TACAACACTGGTTATTCCTGATAATATCTGACCAGCCTGCCGGAG TTGCCGGAAGGACTACGGGAGCTGGAGGTCTCTGGTAACCTACAAC TGACCAGCCTGCCATCGCTGCCGCAGGGACTACAGAAGCTGTGGGCC LATAATAATTGGCTGGCCAGCCTGCCGACGTTGCCGCCAGGACTAGG GGATCTGGCGGTCTCTAATAACCAGCTGACCAGCCTGCCGGAGATGC CGCCAGCACTACGGGAGCTGAGGGTCTCTGGTAACAACCTGACCAGC TGCGCGCGCTGCCGTCAGGACTACAGAAGCTGTGGGCCTATAATAA TCGGCTGACCAGCCTGCCGGAGATGTCGCCAGGACTACAGGAGCTGG ATGTCTCTCATAACCAGCTGACCCGCCTGCCGCAAAGCCTCACGGGT ACGCACTCGTGACAGGCTCTGCGGACATCATTGGCCATTCAGGCATC AGGATACACTTCGATATGGCGGGGCCTTCCGTCCCCGGGAAGCCCGG GCACTGCACCTGGCGGTCGCTGACTGGCTGACGTCTGCACGGGAGGGG GAAGCGGCCCAGGCAGACAGATGGCAGGCGTTCGGAACTGGAAGATA ACGCCGCCCTCAGCCTGGTCCTGGACAGACTGCGTGAGACGGAA AACTTCAAAAAGACGCGGGCTTTAAGGCACAGATATCATCCTGG CTGACACAACTGGCTGAAGATGCTGCGCTGAGAGCCAAAAACCT TTGCCATGGCAACAGAGGCAACATCAACCTGCGAGGACCGGGTCAC <u>ACATGCCCTGCACCAGATGAATAACGTACAACTGGTACATAATGC</u> AGAAAAGGGGAATACGACAACAATCTCCAGGGGCTGGTTTCCAC GGGGCGTGAGATGTTCCGCCTGGCAACACTGGAACAGATTGCCCGGG <u>AAAAAGCCGGAACACTGGCTTTAGTCGATGACGTTGAGGTCTATC</u>T GGCGTTCCAGAATAAGCTGAAGGAATCACTTCAGCTGACCAGCGTG ACGTCAGAAATGCGTTTCTTTGACGTTTCCGGCGTGACGGTTTCA GACCTTCAGGCTGCGGACGTTCAGGTGAAAACCGCTGAAAACAGCG GGTTCAGTAAATGGATACTGCAGTGGGGGCCGTTACACAGCGTGCT GGAACGCAAAGTGCCGGAACGCTTTAACGCGCTTCGTGAAAAGCA <u>AATATCGGATTATGAAGACACGTACCGGAAGCTGTATGACGAAGT</u> GCTGAAATCGTCCGGGCTGGTCGACGATACCGATGCAGAACGTACT ATCGGAGTAAGTGCGATGGATAGTGCGAAAAAAAGAATTTCTGGA TGGCCTGCGCGCTCTTGTGGATGAGGTGCTGGGTAGCTATCTGACAG CCCGGTGGCGTCTTAACTGA

MRDCLNNGNPVLNVGASGLTTLPDRLPPHITTLVIPDNNLTSLPELPEGLRE
LEVSGNLQLTSLPSILPQGI.QKLWAYNNWLASLPTLPPGLGDLAVSNNQLTS
LPEMPPALRELRVSGNNLTSLRALPSGLQKLWAYNNRLTSLPEMSPGLQELD
VSHNQLTRLPQSLTGLSSAARVYI.DGNPLSVRTRDRLCGIIIIWPFRIIQDTLRY
GGAFRPREARALHI.AVADWLTSAREGEAAQADRWQAFGLEDNAAAFSLV
LDRLRETENFKKDAGFKAQISSWLTQLAEDAAI.RAKTFAMATFATSTCEDRV
THALHQMNNVQI.VHNAFKGEYDNNLQGLVSTGREMIFRLATLEQIAREKAGT
LALVDDVEVYLAFQNKLKESLELTSVTSEMRFFDVSGVTVSDLQAADVQVK
TAENSGFSKWII.QWGPLHSVLERKVPERFNALREKQISDYEDTYRKLYDEVLK
SSGLVDDTDAERTIGVSAMDSAKKEFLDGLRALVDEVLGSYLTARWRLNZ

FIG. 27 (SEO ID NO:14)

CGCAAAGCCGAGGAACCGAACCGCATTATGGGATGTATCGGGAAAGTCCTC CGCCCCCTAACCATTGTCACCCTTCTCGCCCCTGTTTTTACCGGTGGGGCG AGTCTGGCGCTGCGGTGGGACTTGCGGTAATGGTGGCCGATGAAATTGT. GAAGGCGGCGACGGGAGTGTCGTTTATTCAGCAGGCGCTAAACCCGATTATC **GAGCATGTGCTGAAGCCGTTAATGGAGCTGATTGGCAAGGCGATTACCAAA** <u>GCGCTGGAAGGATTAGGCCTCGATAAGAAAACGGCAGAGATGGCCGGCAGC</u> ATTGTTGGTGCGATTGTCGCCCCCTATTGCCATGGTGGCGGTCATTGTGGTGGTC <u>CICACTTOTOGGGAAAGGCGCGCGCGCGAAACTCGCTAACGCGCTGAGCAAA</u> ATGATGGGCGAAACGATTAAGAAGTTGGTGCCTAACGTGCTGAAACAGTT GGCGCAAAACGGCAGCAAACTCIIIIACCCAGGGGATGCAACGTATTACTAG CGGTCTGGGTAATGTGGGTAGCAAGATGGCCTGCAAACGAATGCCTTAAG TAAAGAGCTGGTAGGTAATACCCTAAATAAAGTGGCGTTGGGCATGGAAG AAAATUCCAGCGAGGCGCTTGCTGATTTTATCCTCGCCCGTTTTGCCATGG ATCAGATTCAGCAGTGGCTTAAACAATCCGTAGAAATATTTGGTGAAAAC CACIAACGTAACGCCGGAACTGCAAAAAGCCATGTCTTCTCCGGGTACAGCAA AATGCGGATGCTTCGCGTTTTATICTGCGCCAGAGTCGCGCATAAAACTGC CAAAATAAAGGGAGAAAAATATGTTAATTAGTAATGTGGGAATAAAT

(SEQ ID NO:15)

JCGCAATCCGTTAGCGCTAAAGATATTCTGAATAGTATTGGTATTAGCAGC AGI'AAAGTCAGTGACCI'GGGGTTGAGTCCTACACTGACCCCCCCCTGCGCCAGG <u>GGTATTAACGCAAACCCCCCUGAACGATCACGTCCTTTTTAAAAGCCAGT</u>AT TCAAAATACCGACATGAATCAGGATTTGAATGCTCTGGCAAATAATGTCA <u>CGACTAAAGCGAATGAGGTTGTGCAAACCCAGTTACGCGAGCAGCAGCAG</u> AACTCGGAAAGTTTTTTGATATTACCGGAATGTCTTCCAGTGCCGTTGCGCT GTTGGCTGCGGGAATACGTTAATGCTGACGTTGAACCAGGCTGATAGCAA ACTGTCTGGTAAGTTGTCATTAGTCAGTTTTGATGCAGCUAAAACGACGGC <u>AACKTCCATGATGCCCCGAAGGGATGAATGCCTTCTCCGGTAGTATTTCCCAG</u> <u>ACCIGCOCTTCAGTTGGCGATCACTGGCGTGGGCGCCAAACTGGAATATAACG</u> <u>GGCTGCAGAATGAAAGAGGCGCGCTTAAACATAATGCCGCGAAGATCGAT</u> <u>AAACTGACCACTGAAAGCCACAGTATTAAAAACGTGCTGAACG</u>CGCAGAA TAGCGTCAAACTCGCTGCTGAAGGCCTCGATTCTCTGAAATCGTTAAATAT GA'AGAAAACCGGTACCGATGCGACGAAAATCTTAATGATGCGACGCTTA <u>AATCTAATGCCGGAACCAGCGCACGGAAAGTCTGGGTATTAAAGACAGT</u> <u>AATAAACAAATCICCCCTGAACATCAGGCI'ATTCTGTCGAAACGTCTI'GAG</u> TCTGTCGAATCCGATATTCGTCTTGAGCAGAATACCATGGATATGACCCGA ATCGATGCGCGCAAGATGCAGATGACGGGGGATCTGATTATGAAGAACTCG GTCACGGTCGCiYCGTATTGCAGGGCCGICCGGGCAGTACGCCGCIACTCAGGA <u>ACGTTCCGAGCAGCAAATTAGCCAGGGGAAAACCGGGTTGCCAGCACCGCA</u> TCGGACGAAGCCCGTGAAACTTCACGTAAATCGACCAGCCTGATTCAGGAA <u>ATGCTGAAAACAATGGAGAGCATTAACCAGTCGAAACCATCCGCACTCGCT</u> <u>CCTATCGCAGGCAATATTCCCCGCTTAA</u>TCTGAAAGGTCATCTATACGCCATC ATGGGTGTGATTTAATCGCGCTCCTGATGGCGAACTGGGGGATATT<u>ATGCTT</u> AATIATTCAAAATTATTCCGCITICTCCTCATCCGGGGATCGTTGCCGAACGGCC CCACACITEXTENSION OF THE CONTROL OF

AGAACATCGCGGTACAGATATCATTTCATTATCGCAGGCGGCTACTAAAAT <u>CCACCACCACAGCAGCAGCAGTCAACGCCACCGATCTCTGAAGAGAAT</u> A'ATGACGAGOCACGCTGGCGCGCCACCAGTTGACCAGCAGCCTGAA'I'GCGCT GGCGAAGTCCGGCGTCTCATTATCCCCAGAACAAAATGAGAACCTGCGGAG CGCGTTTTCTGCGCCGACGTCGGCCTTATTTAGCGCTTATCGCCCTATCGCCCAGCCG AGAACAACCATTICTGATGCTGAGATTTGGGATATGGTTTCCCAAAATAT ATCGGCGATAGGTGACAGCTATCTGGGCGTTTATGAAAACGTFGTGGGAGTC TATACCGATTTTTATCAGGCCTTCAGTGATATTCTTTCCAAAATGGGAGGCT GGTTATTACCAGGTAAGGACGGTAATACCGTTAAGCTAGATGTTACCTCAC GTAATACCGTTTTATTTCCACCGCAGTCAGGCAGCGCCCGTTAAAGTAGCCAC IGAAGCGGAAGCGAGACAGTGGCTCAGTGAATTGAATTTACCGAATAGCTG CCTGAAATCTTATGGATCCGGTTATGTCGTCACCGTTGATCTGACGCCATTAC <u>AAAAAATGGTTCAGGATATTGATGGTTTAGGCGCGCCGGGAAAGACTCA</u> <u>AAACTCGAAATGGATAACGCCAAATATCAAGCCTGGCAGTCGGGTTTTAA</u> AGCGCAGGAAGAAATATGAAAACCACATTACAGACGCTGACGCAAAAA TATAGCAATGCCAATTCATTGTACGACAACCTGGTAAAAGTGCTGAGCAGT ACCIATAACTACCACCTCCGAAACCTTCCTGCAAGGATAACA GAAGAGGATATTAATAATGGTTACAAGTGTAAGGACTCAGCCCCCCGTCA TANTOCUAGGTATGCAGACCGAGATCAAAACGCAGGCCACGAATCITCKCGG CGAATCTTTCCCCAGAGAAAGTGCCACACCGACGCTGTCAGGGGAAA TTAAAGGCCCGCAACTGGAAGATTTTCCCCGCGCTGATCAAACAGGCGAGTCT CCATCC

COTOTOGOGOGATA GAGCTCAGCAAC STOGAAAGCCTGTAAAATCATG CGTTTTACCGTTATCGTGAACTGGCCGATGAAGGCCGCGTTGATGCGCTGAT AAATCGTAGTCGCCGCGTACCTAACCTTAAGAACCGTACCGATGAGGCAAC TGAGCAAGCTGTTGTTGATTATGCCGTTGCGTTCCCGGCCCATGGTCAGCACC GAACTGCGCAAACAGGACGTTTTI'ATCICCCGTAGTGATGTCCATI'CCGI'CI' CCCTCCCCACACCTTGAGAACTTCAAAAAACGCCTGAAAGCGCTGGAAGA AAAAGTGGCCQGGATGGCATTUAACTGACTGCCAGATGGCCGCGCTGGAGC GTAAAGCCAGTGATGATGAAGCCTGTGGTGAGATTGAAACCGTTCATCCGG GATATCTGGGGTCACAGGACACGTTCTACGTGGGCAACCTGAAAGGCGTTGG GCGAATCTATCAGCAGACGTTCGTTGATACATACTCGAAGGTGGCTCACTGC AAGCGCTATATCACCAAAACGCCGATTACAGCGGCTGATTTGCTGAATGAT CGTGTACTGCCGTTTATGAGTCTCAGGGCCTGCCGATGCTAAGGATACTGAC AGACACCGGTACAGAATATTGCGGCAAAGTGGAACATCATGATTATCAGC CCGCAGACCAATGGCATCTGCGAGCGGTTCCATAAAACGATACTGAACGAA TTTTATCAGGTGACGTTCCGCAAAAAGTTATATGGCGATTTTGATACATTA CAATCGGATCTTGATGAATGGCTGGTTCACTATAATAATGAGCGAACCCAT CAGGGAAAAATGTGCTGTGGCCGGACGCCGATCGAAACGTTACTTGATGGA \\\CGC\TCTGGTCTGAGAGAATTTAAGCCAGATGTAATCTGACAGATA CCTGTATAAATAACCGGTAACTGTCAGATCAGGTCTGAGCTAATACAACT-AATTGTATGTTATTTGTCGTTTATTGCTAAATATATATCGTTAATTGAAG GCITGATGCGTGTGTCTGCGTTAATCTCTTTTCATTGTGCTGTAAATTAGGC ACTOGAATATOTTAATATOOGCAATACACAACCTTCTGTAAGTATGCAG CKTFATTCKTTCGTCCACCGGCACCAGAGGCATCTCCGGAAGAAATTGTATGGG AAAAATTCAGGTTTTTTTCCCGCAGGAAAATTACGAAGAAGCGCAACAGT GTCTCGCTGAACTTTGCCATCCGGCCCGGGGAATGTTGCCTGATCATATCAGC AGCCAGTTTGCGCGTTTAAAAGCCCCTTACXTTCCXCCCCGTGGGAGGAGAATA TTCAGTGTAACAGGGATGGTATAAATCAGTTTTGTATTCTGGATGCAGGCA GCAAGGAGATATTGTCAATCACTCTTGATGATGCCGGGAACTATACCGTGA ATTGTCAGGGGTACAGTGAAGCACATGACTTCATCATGGACACAGAACCGG GAGAGGAATCCCCCGAGGGGGGCATCCGGGACATCCCTCCGCCCT CCCACAACCCCTTTCACAGAAGGCAGCAGAGTATGATGCTGTCTGGTCAAAT GGGAAAGGGATGCACCAGGAGAGTCACCGGCCGCGCAGCAGTGGTACA GGAAATGCGTGATTGCCTGAATAACGGCAATCCAGTGCTTAACGTG **GGAGCGTCAGGTCTTACCACCTTACCAGACCGTTTACCACCGCATAT** <u>TACAACACTGGTTATTCCTGATAATAATCTGACCAGCCTGCCGGAG</u> TTGCCGGAAGGACTACGGGAGCTGGAGGTCTCTGGTAACCTACAAC <u>TGACCAGCCTGCCATCGCTGCCGCAGGGACTACAGAAGCTGTGGGCC</u> TATAATAATTGGCTGGCCAGCCTGCCGACGTTGCCGCCAGGACTAGG GGATCTGGCGGTCTCTAATAACCAGCTGACCAGCCTGCCGGAGATGC CGCCAGCACTACGGGAGCTGAGGGTCTCTGGTAACAACCTGACCAGC TGCGCGCGCTGCCGTCAGGACTACAGAAGCTGTGGGCCTATAATAA TCGGCTGACCAGCCTGCCGGACATGTCGCCAGGACTACAGGAGCTGG ATGTCTCTCATAACCAGCTGACCCGCCTGCCGCAAAGCCTCACGGGT

<u>ACGCACTCGTGACAGGCTCTGCGGACATCATTGGCCATTCAGGCATC</u> <u>AGGATACACTTCGATATGGCGGGCCTTCCGTCCCCGGGAAGC</u>CCCG GCACTGCACCTGGCGGTCGCTGACTGGCTCACGTCTGCACGGGAGGGG <u>GAAGCGGCCAGGCAGACAGATGGCAGGCGTTCGGACTGGAAGAT</u>4 ACGCCGCCGCCTTCAGCCTGGTCCTGGACAGACTGCGTGAGACGGAA AACTICAAAAAGACGCGGGCTTTAAGGCACAGATATCATCCTGG <u>CTGACACAACTGGCTGAAGATGCTGCGCTGAGAGCCAAAAACC</u>T TTGCCATGGCAACAGAGGCAACATCAACCTGCGAGGACCGGGTCAC A CATGCCCTGCACCAGATGAATAACGTACAACTGGTACATAATGC <u>AGAAAAGGGGAATACGAGAAGAATCTCCAGGGGCTGGTTTCCAG</u> <u>GGGCCTGAGATCTTCCGCCTGGCAACACTGGAACAGATTGCCCGGG</u> <u>AAAAAGCCGGAACACTGGCTTTAGTCGATGACGTTGAGGTCTATCT</u> <u>GGCGTTCCAGAATAAGCTGAAGGAATCACTTGAGCTGACCAGCGTG</u> ACGTCAGAAATGCGTTTCTTTGACGTTTCCGGCGTGACGGTTTCA GACCTTCAGGCTGCGGACGTTCAGGTGAAAACCGCTGAAAACAGCG <u>GGTTCAGTAAATGGATACTGCAGTGGGGGCCGTTACAC</u>AGCGTGCT <u>GGAACGCAAAGTGCCGGAACGCTTTAACGCGCTTCGTGAAAAGCA</u> <u>AATATCGGATTATGAAGACACGTACCGGAAGCTGTATGACGAAGT</u> GCTGAAATCGTCCGGGCTGGTCGACGATACCGATGCAGAACGTACT <u>ATCGGAGTAAGTGCGATGGATAGTGCGAAAAAAAGAATTTCTGGA</u> ${f TGGCCTGCGCGCTCTTGTGGATGAGGTGCTGGGTAGCTATCTGACAG$ CCCGGTGGCGTCTTAACTGAGCACGATATTCTCCGCACCAGGCGAATGTG GTGCGGTGAACAAAGATATTCCTTGGACAAACAACATGAGACACGACGGA AACCTTTTCGACGATACCCCCC

FIG. 29 (2 of 2)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/18504

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER								
IPC(6) :Please See Extra Sheet.								
US CL :536/22.1, 23.7; 435/7.2, 7.32, 7.35, 29, 30, 32, 38, 252.1								
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC								
B. FIELDS SEARCHED								
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)								
U.S. : 536/22.1, 23.7; 435/7.2, 7.32, 7.35, 29, 30, 32, 38, 252.1								
Documenta	tion searched other than minimum documentation to th	e extent that such documents are included	in the fields searched					
Electronic o	data base consulted during the international search (n	ame of data base and, where practicable	, search terms used)					
Dialog search terms, Salmonell?, secreted proteins, Ssp?, prg?								
C. DOC	C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT							
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.					
X	HUECK et al. Salmonella typhir determinants are homologous to Molecular Microbiology. 1995, Vol. 490, see entire document.	1, 2, 4, 10, 16						
X	HANTMAN et al. Defective Extract Salmonella typhimurium Mutants Eucaryotic Cell Membrane Rufflin Abstracts of the 95th General I Society of Microbiology. 21-25 Abstract B-109, see entire abstract	17-19						
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X Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.								
Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filling date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the								
Α doc to 1	rument defining the general state of the art which is not considered be of particular relevance	principle or theory underlying the inve						
	tier document published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be consider when the document is taken alone	e claimed invention cannot be red to involve an inventive step					
CEL	ed to establish the publication date of another citation or other cital reason (as specified)	*Y* document of particular relevance; the	claimed invention cannot be					
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other monast								
P document published prior to the international filing date but later than '&' document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed								
Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report								
12 FEBRUARY 1997 21 MAR 1997								
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231		H. F. SIDBERRY						
Facsimile No		Talanhona No. (703) 308-0106	V: (L/N					

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US96/18504

	8504			
	tion). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
Y	BAUDRY et al. Nucleotide sequence of the invasion plasmid antigen B and C genes (<i>IpaB</i> and <i>IpaC</i>) of Shigella flexneri. Microbial Pathogenesis. 1988, Vol. 4, pages 345-357, see pages 348 and 349			
X	WO 95/02048 A (THE GENERAL HOSPITAL CORPORATION) 19 January 1995, see especially pages 11, 12, 19, 70 and 90-102.	1, 2, 4, 10, 16- 19		
		e. 		
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Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet)(July 1992)*

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER: IPC (6):

C07H 19/00, 21/00, 21/04; C12N 1/21; C12Q 1/02, 1/10, 1/18, 1/24; G01N 33/569

BOX I. OBSERVATIONS WHERE CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE

2. Where no meaningful search could be carried out, specifically:

A sequence listing is required for all disclosures of sequence information in which the sequence has four or more amino acids or ten or more nucleotides. The PCT application does not comply with Section 1.821(e), (a printable copy of the "Sequence Listing") a computer readable form, as defined in Sections 1.82(c), 1.822 and 1.823, recorded as a single file on either a diskette or a magnetic tape. The claims recite Sequence Identifiers, but do not comply with the stated requirements, and therefore, no meaningful search could be carried out on claims 3,5, and 11.

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-10, and 12-19, drawn to DNA encoding a Salmonella secreted proteins (Ssp), cell, method of inducing the uptake of a bacterial cell.

Group II, claims 20 and 22, drawn to SspC polypeptide.

Group III, claims 23 and 25, drawn to SspD polypeptide.

Group IV, claims 26 and 28, drawn to SspH polypeptide.

Group V, claims 29 and 31, drawn to lagB polypeptide.

Group VI, claim 32, drawn to antibody which binds a Ssp.

Group VII, claim 33, drawn to methods of detecting a Salmonella infection using DNA.

Group VIII, claim 34, drawn to method of detecting a Salmonella infection using antibody.

Group IX, claims 35 and 36 drawn to method of targeting an antigen to an epithelial cell.

Group X, claim 37, drawn to method of inducing a cytotoxic T cell response.

Group XI, claims 38-41, drawn to vaccines comprising attenuated bacteria and a method of vaccinating.

Group XII, claim 42, drawn to transformed Salmonella.

Group XIII, claim 43, drawn to a method of vaccinating.

Group XIV, claim 44, drawn to StpA polypeptide.

Group XV, claim 45, drawn to method of dephosphorylating a protein.

This application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention. These species are deemed to lack Unity of Invention because they are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for more than one species to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid. The species are as follows:

The claims are deemed to correspond to the species listed above in the following manner:

species of DNA

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US96/18504

DNA(SspA), claims 8-10; SspB, claims 2, 10; SspC, claims 4, 10; SspD, claims 6, 7, 10; SspH, claims 12 and StpA, claims 14.

The following claims are generic: For the DNA, claims 1, 10, 16-19.

The species listed above do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: because each DNA encodes a protein which differs physicochemically, antigenically, structurally and functionally.